Hafa Adai!

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Award-winning docu show's tale of overcoming PTSD. PAGE 9

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SCC: Employers fear losing CW employees

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The "multi-step process" being required of employers when applying work permits for their foreign employees is provoking fears that it may hamper their ability to retain these employees and that they may eventually lose them.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce raised this, and other related concerns in a statement Thursday, saying that employers are concerned with the processing timeline of CW applications for fiscal year 2020, that some members have reached out to them because of delays in receiving their CW approvals in time.

"Employers are fearful they will not be able to submit their completed CW renewal application by Sept. 30, 2019, due to the delays in receiving the wage determination, Temporary Labor Certification [also known as TLCs], and

See SCC on Page 4

9 killed in 2nd US shooting within 24 hours

DAYTON, Ohio (AP)—Nine people in Ohio have been killed in the second mass shooting in the U.S. in less than 24 hours, and the suspected shooter is also deceased, police said.

Dayton police tweeted that an active shooter situation began in the Oregon District at 1 a.m., but officers nearby were able to "put an end to it quickly." Lt. Col. Matt Carper said at a press conference that the suspect

See SHOOTING on Page 4

Commonwealth Casino Commission acting chair Joseph C. Reyes presides over CCC's regular meeting last Wednesday.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

'IPI's $15M license fee due next week'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» IPI may also pay potential adjustment

Aug. 12 next week is the due date for Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC to pay its annual exclusive casino license fee in the amount of $15 million plus potential adjustment, according to Commonwealth Casino Commission audit manager Charlie O. Atalig.

Atalig told CCC commissioners during last week's meeting that IPI should pay more than $15 million because there is a provision in the law that there may be an adjustment for the cumulative consumer price index every five years.

Atalig

This month is IPI's sixth year, so that means there may be an adjustment, Atalig said.

See IPI on Page 4

Double class sessions could continue in new school year

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Schools that had double sessions last school year would continue to do so this coming school year—at least for a few months—until repairs to the campuses are completed.

In a short interview, Interim Education Commissioner Jackie Quitugua said that double sessions—when a school holds separate class sessions in the morning and in the afternoon—are still being discussed but these sessions are likely to continue when the school year begins this September.

"It is still an ongoing conversation because of many factors and we may, in this point in time, possibly continue with the double sessions but for just a few months maybe," she said.

Typically, a class lasts from 8am to 4pm. A double ses-

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BUSINESS
KFC Saipan is finally serving the long-anticipated Chicken & Waffles meal.

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NATION
A gunman opens fire in a shopping area, killing 20 and injuring more than two dozen.

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WORLD
The U.S. announces plans to test a new missile, with the scrapping of an arms control accord.

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Local

$478M released to 232 airports

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of Transportation will award $478 million in airport infrastructure grants to 232 airports in 43 states, including American Samoa, the CNMI, and Puerto Rico.

This is the fourth allotment of the total $3.18 billion in Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Improvement Program funding for airports across the United States.

"Infrastructure projects funded by these grants will advance safety, improve travel, generate jobs and provide other economic benefits for local communities," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao.

Selected projects include runway reconstruction and rehabilitation, construction of firefighting facilities, and the maintenance of taxiways, aprons, and terminals. The construction and equipment supported by this funding increase the airports' safety, emergency response capabilities, and capacity, and could support further economic growth and development within each airport's region.

Airport infrastructure in the United States is composed of 3,332 airports and 5,000 paved runways. According to the FAA's most recent economic analysis, U.S. civil aviation accounts for $1.6 trillion in total economic activity and supports nearly 11 million jobs.

Airports can receive a certain amount of AIP funding each year based on activity levels and project needs. ***(PR)***

Odor from Sadog Tasi sewage plant to continue in 3 months

There is currently a sewage odor in the Sadog Tasi, Puerto Rico, Lower Base, Lower Navy Hill, and Garapan areas and this is expected to continue intermittently for the next three months: August, September, and October.

This is due to the re-activation of the aerators in basin I at the Sadog Tasi Treatment Plant and the startup of the digester aerator unit following a draw down or decanting of excess effluent.

The temporary clarifier currently running needs to allow additional sludge to build a sludge layer on the bottom of the basin to properly capture and draw the waste sludge from the unit. This process may take up to three months or more depending on the timing of the treatment process changes. As a result, there will be reduced odors and improved effluent quality once it goes operational.

In a notice last Thursday, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. said it is planning on a series of rehabilitative improvements to the treatment process over the next year which will be critical for the long-term viability of the plant to handle the large amount of new development on the island. The outcome of those improvements will be an odor free treatment facility.

CUC is also working on lessening the odor around the Sadig Tasi Treatment Plant to prevent emission of the odor to the neighboring areas.

"We will be looking at alternatives for masking the smell of the treatment process which is not hazardous to you, just unpleasant to smell," said the CUC statement. ***(PR)***

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Woman indicted with bank fraud

A federal grand jury has indicted a woman for allegedly gaining access to her mother's bank savings account through fraud and obtaining $12,208 for her own use.

The indictment, which was filed Thursday, charged Janee Marie Famy Babauta with bank fraud.

An initial appearance hearing for Babauta was held Friday.

According to the indictment, between March 20 and April 15, 2019, Babauta provided her mother's personal identifying information in order to gain access and control of her mother's Bank of Guam savings account.

Babauta then allegedly converted approximately $12,208 to her own use through online transfers, transactions, and purchases.

The indictment seeks to forfeit to the U.S. government a money judgment representing the amount of proceeds obtained as a result of the offense. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Expo to showcase opportunities for growth

The two House of Representative lawmakers representing Precinct 2 will be hosting the CNMI's first-ever "Opportunity Expo" that aims to not just educate the public about available job opportunities but also other opportunities in the community.

According to an invitation from Rep. Christina Sablan (Ind-Saipan), the goal of the expo is to connect constituents with the lineup of opportunities available to them to better their lives, their families, and the community, from employment and small business development, to education, vocational rehabilitation, additional disability and recovery services, and much more.

The expo will be held Saturday, Aug. 17, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, from 10am to 6pm, and will be hosted by both Sablan and Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan).

Both representatives' offices have invited a wide variety of businesses such as TanHoldings, educational institutions, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations to showcase the opportunities they offer.

"We hope to make the expo as interactive as possible, and encourage participating organizations to be creative in their exhibitions," the invitation states.

For more information about the Opportunity Expo or to RSVP, contact (670) 664-8829 or (670) 664-8965. ***(Marc A. Venus)***

NMC info session and FAFSA workshop this week

Community members who want to learn more about Northern Marianas College's fall 2019 semester and accessing financial aid can attend the college's free info session on Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019, and the FAFSA workshop on Friday, Aug. 9, 2019.

The info session will run from 5:30pm to 6:30pm on Thursday, Aug. 8, at the NMC Olympio T. Borja Library and will cover the admissions process, the different degree programs offered at the college, and other college initiatives. Student service representatives from financial aid, counseling, and admissions offices will be at the info session to answer questions.

Attendees of the information session will also qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for the fall 2019 semester—a savings of up to $75.

The FAFSA workshop will consist of three separate sessions held at 9am, 10am, and 11am on Friday, Aug. 9, at the NMC computer lab in room V108. Financial aid representatives will be assisting parents and students in filling out the online FAFSA for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year.

Space is limited for the workshop, so those interested in attending may reserve a spot by emailing Financial Aid director Daisy Propst at daisy.propst@marianas.edu or by calling the Financial Aid Office at (670) 237-6791, 6793, or 6794.

Parents and students who are attending the FAFSA workshop should know their social security number, and bring copies of their 2017 income tax returns and their 2017 W-2 (if not filing) to the workshop.

More information about the info session and/or applying to NMC is available by contacting the Office of Admissions & Records at (670) 237-6770, emailing oar@marianas.edu, or visiting www.marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

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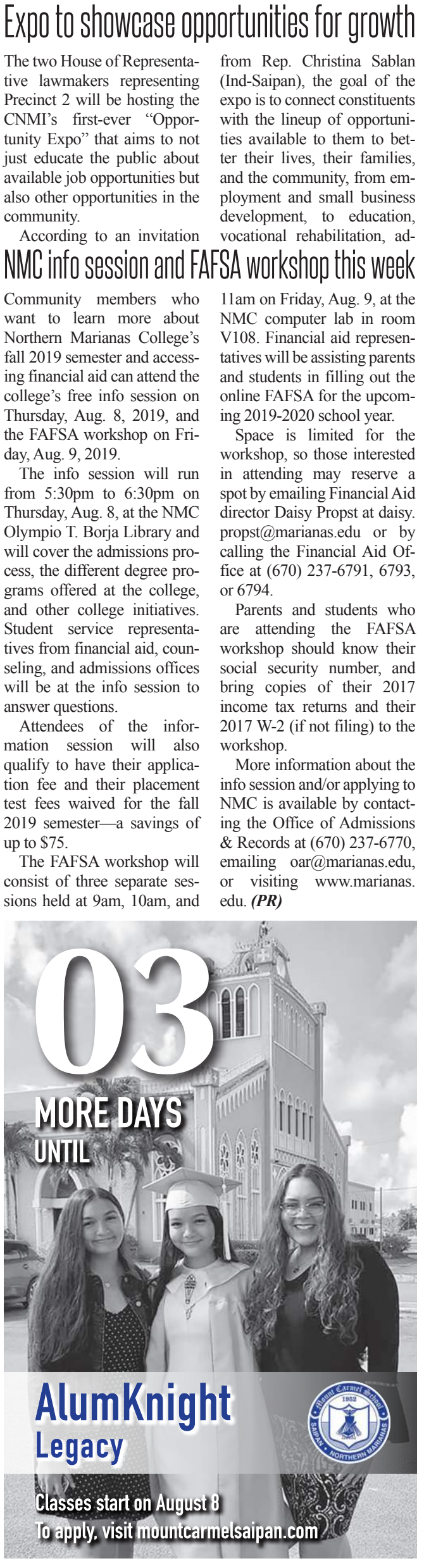

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NAP gets closer to EBT system

By MARC VENUS
marc_venus @saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Nutritional Assistance Program moves a step closer to implementing a benefit card system for its food stamp beneficiaries. If everything falls into place, the end of the use of paper coupons could happen by the first month of the new year.

According to Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter, the NAP recently went online, following development and testing, with its eligibility system last June.

He said the system took two years in development to complete and will electronically address a wide range of NAP-related functions, from the application process to the production of reports. Hunter said this new online system is a prerequisite to implementing an Electronic Benefits Transfer, or EBT method, of distributing benefits.

He said the EBT is similar to using a bank's debit card or a credit card, and that NAP is now in the process of working with Food and Nutrition Services to develop the request for proposals to seek a vendor to handle the EBT function.

"Depending on the response to the RFP, we are targeting the first month of the new year to see the transition to the EBT. …This will end the use of paper coupons," Hunter said.

This system will also make distribution of benefits easier to manage, make it easier for clients to receive their benefits, and assist NAP in monitoring fraud—cases where food stamp recipients wrongfully use coupons to buy incorrect items as the paper coupons are separated by regular foods and locally-made crops.

"This has been discussed for the better part of 20 years, and we are excited to see this eligibility system and EBT come to fruition," Hunter said.

Hunter met with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Services last July to discuss proposals to adjust the benefits further and to enhance components of the NAP's Employment and Training program and the Nutrition Education initiative.

Tropical depression nears

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

A tropical depression is slowly making its way toward the Marianas but it is not expected to directly impact the islands.

The National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, said that a tropical depression it has it has been monitoring that has been forming over the Philippine Sea has gotten more organized over the weekend.

At 1pm yesterday, Tropical Depression 10W was seen about 950 miles west of Saipan, about 910 miles west-northwest of Guam, about 655 miles north-northwest of Koror, and about 650 miles northwest of Yap.

The tropical depression is forecasted to intensify and possibly become a tropical storm by today but is reportedly not seen to directly impact the Marianas.

Tropical Depression 10W is moving east-northeast at 7 mph and is expected to make a turn toward the north-northwest, with a slight decrease in forward speed over the next 24 hours.

Tropical Depression 10W packs maximum sustained winds of 30 miles per hour and it is forecasted to continue with its present movement of 7 mph at 60 degrees to the east-northeast.

At around 1pm yesterday, the center of Tropical Depression 10W was located near latitude 16.4 degrees north and longitude 131.5 degrees east.

A robust monsoon trough will also continue to produce rainy and breezy weather conditions across the Marianas through Wednesday. Brief flooding is expected near low-lying and poor drainage areas.

NWS also reported that the CNMI is still experiencing somewhat dry weather but showers have been evenly distributed. Due to the wetter weather, the CNMI islands are turning greener but with Guam still browner than the CNMI.

Drought still persists in the Marianas but more showers are expected in the coming weeks. Computer models are indicating rainfall of 1 to 1.5 inches for the next week and variable rainfall totals of 2 to 3 inches for the next two weeks.

Conditions across the Marianas are expected to continue to improve as the transition to the rainy season continues.

SCC

From Page 1

the other processes needed for approval. [The Chamber has] not learned of a single employer who has completed the USDOL side of CW renewals. One employer who submitted 20 TLCs…only received one TLC. This took one month. Another submitted 40 and received one, another [submitted] 80 and received one," a statement from the Chamber to the *Saipan Tribune* noted.

With the passing of the CNMI Workforce Act of 2018, there are now two different U.S. federal agencies that have to process the filing for CW-1 visas: the U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

"For USDOL, businesses first need USDOL to approve their applicants' wage determination, which employers have reported is taking more than three weeks to receive. After you get the wage determination, a Temporary Labor Certification [or TLC] has to be issued from the USDOL. Businesses are telling us getting the TLC is taking about three to four weeks," the statement noted.

"We have only heard of a handful of companies that have received a TLC back, and they are only receiving TLCs for very few of their applications submitted. Some companies are at this step and have been waiting more than three weeks to a month for this TLC," the statement added.

The employer can post the vacancy for 21 days only after the TLC is received before initiating the hiring process and before being able to submit the renewal application of the CW petition.

This process is only for the USDOL side.

Saipan Tribune sought to clarify whether employees who are still undergoing the USDOL processes can be afforded the 240-day extension. However, according to the Chamber, the extension only kicks in once the USCIS is in possession of the CW petition and has yet to decide on the application.

"Only after USDOL's process is complete can employers file for the USCIS 240-day extension. Businesses are worried they will not complete this process with multiple steps for approval by Sept. 30, 2019," the Chamber noted.

"This would mean the employee would have to leave the island. This makes it difficult for the employers to plan their operations and challenging for employees to make arrangements to leave island with their families with such short notice," the Chamber added.

CNMI employers who want to hire a foreign worker has to first secure a CW-1 permit for that worker.

SHOOTING

From Page 1

was shot to death by responding officers.

At least 16 others were taken to local hospitals with injuries, police said. No details about the victims were released.

Police believe there was only one shooter, and have not yet identified the suspect or a motive. Carper said the suspect used a long gun and fired multiple rounds.

Miami Valley Hospital spokeswoman Terrea Little said 16 victims have been received at the hospital, but she couldn't confirm their conditions. Kettering Health Network spokeswoman Elizabeth Long said multiple victims from a shooting had been brought to system hospitals, but didn't have details on how many.

With a population of around 140,000 Dayton is in western Ohio, around 55 miles (90 kilometers) northeast of Cincinnati, 75 miles (120 kilometers) west of Columbus and 120 miles (195 kilometers) east of Indianapolis. The Oregon District is a historic neighborhood that Carper described as "a safe part of downtown," home to entertainment options, including bars, restaurants and theaters. The shooting took place on the 400 block of East 5th Street.

"This is extremely unusual, obviously, for any community, let alone Dayton," Carper said. "In our Oregon District, this is unheard of."

The FBI is assisting with the investigation. A family assistance center was set up at the Dayton Convention Center.

The Ohio shooting came hours after a young man opened fire in a crowded El Paso, Texas, shopping area, leaving 20 dead and more than two dozen injured. Just days before, on July 28, a 19-year-old shot and killed three people, including two children, at Northern California's Gilroy Garlic Festival.

The El Paso shooting was the 21st mass killing in the United States in 2019, according to the AP/USATODAY/Northeastern University mass murder database that tracks all U.S. homicides since 2006 involving four or more people killed — not including the offender — over a short period of time regardless of weapon, location, victim-offender relationship or motive. That makes Sunday's shooting in Dayton the 22nd mass killed in the U.S. this year.

The first 20 mass killings in the U.S. in 2019 claimed 96 lives.

DOUBLE

From Page 1

sion means that one group of students go to school in the morning and then another group goes to school in the afternoon.

Quitugua explained that a little more time is needed to break out of double or half-day sessions because of the repairs needed to be made to campuses following the onslaught of Super Typhoon Yutu last year.

"For now, we are not really sure [how long the double sessions will last.] It really depends on how much of the repairs have been done, so we will be updating the community, the parents, and we are working closely with the school administrators as well. Again, I just need a little more time to look into the details in how far the contractors are in the repairs," she said.

At the end of last school year, four schools were still in double sessions: Oleai Elementary School, San Vicente Elementary School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, and the Francisco M. Sablan Middle School.

This year, the school year starts right after Labor Day, Sept. 3, for students who are returning. Teachers, however, return to campuses on Aug. 27 to start preparations.

"Schools are really ripe in preparing. We have what we call 'school opening checklists' and that's what we are really recommending to our schools, that they really look into that and make sure those checklists are checked," said Quitugua.

She assured that the Office of the Education Commissioner has already completed all the safety requirements needed before opening the schools to students.

"No. 1 is making sure that our schools are meeting the requirements of safety. So those have already been cleared through Bureau of Environmental Health, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Department of Public Works, we've done all of that, the fire requirements, those have already been completed, so we're grateful for that, especially the partnership we have with all these agencies," she said.

IPI

From Page 1

In an interview, though, Atalig said the problem is that the Central Statistics Division of the Department of Commerce, is not ready yet with its CPI information.

"It's not finalized. And you need that information in order to determine what the cumulative CPI changes," he said.

The best that the CCC can do is possibly recommend an estimate relating to the adjustment, Atalig said. The only problem with that, he said, is that if the estimate comes under, the commissioners and CCC may be blamed for penalties that might be associated with underpayment of the adjustment.

Atalig said the CCC could essentially provide IPI a projection and leave it to IPI to come up with its own estimate as to how much they think they should pay.

If the CPI numbers are not finalized, then he would recommend that IPI overpay on the adjustment so they can avoid any underpayment penalties, if there are any.

IPI should pay $15 million, Atalig said, and possibly $500,000 more in potential adjustment, depending if the CPI shows that there was inflation.

"So, if there is no inflation, it is just $15 million," he added.

Atalig said they have been in contact with the Central Statistics Division of the Department of Commerce to determine the cumulative change. He said the Central Statistics Division staff are still finalizing their figures for two quarters of 2019.

Atalig said these figures are necessary in determining the final CPI change.

Atalig said he figured out that CCC should probably not be recommending an estimate. "If we put our recommendation in, even if there was a spike because of Super Typhoon Yutu, we would be blamed for the estimate should it comes under," he said.

Atalig recommended that IPI make the conservative estimate.

CCC executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said for purposes of $15 million a year exclusive casino license fee, Public Law 18-56 says that for every five years the $15 million is to be revisited and adjusted based on the CPI, but it can never be down.

Atkins Kroll (Saipan) representatives pose with the organizers of the 2019 Tournament of Champions right next to the brand new 2020 Toyota Corolla, which is featured as a hole-in-one prize at the upcoming tournament on August 10 and 11, 2019 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Atkins Kroll offers Toyota Corolla as TOC hole-in-one

Atkins Kroll (Saipan) Toyota is offering a brand new 2020 Toyota Corolla as a hole-in-one prize at the upcoming Governor's Tournament of Champions, which is slated for Aug. 10 and 11, 2019. The hole-in-one prize contribution is part of the company's commitment to support community-based initiatives and projects.

"For the past 24 years, the Governor's Tournament of Champions has raised critical funds that have enabled the completion of many community projects that benefit our community and our visitors," said Clark Boswell, vice president and general manager of Atkins Kroll (Saipan) Toyota. "We are proud to support this year's tournament once again, and we wish all the players luck!"

"We are grateful for Atkin Kroll's contribution and its longstanding partnership with the event," said Ben Babauta, tournament director. "The hole-in-one prize elevates the excitement of the tournament!"

The 24th Governor's Tournament of Champions will be played at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort's east and west courses on Aug. 10 and 11, 2019. The two-day event is bigger with exciting hole-in-one prizes and the chance to win thousands of dollars in possible prizes. The TOC tournament fee is $200.

Winners in the Men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior and Super Senior flights will each receive $500 cash, $400 cash, $300 cash, a Casio watch, and $100 DFS gift certificate for the first to fifth place, respectively. The Ladies Low Gross winners will receive $500, $400, and $300 cash for first to third place, respectively. The first, second, and third place winners of the Ladies Low Net will each receive a trophy.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of prizes are at stake in the two-day tournament, including hole-in-one prizes that also include a brand new 2019 Nissan Frontier donated by Joeten Motors, a brand new 2019 Mazda CX-5 Sport, and a 2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross donated by Triple J Motors, the recently-announced brand new 2020 Toyota Corolla donated by Atkins Kroll, one year free golf sponsored by Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, and other prizes that will be announced this week. There will also be thousands of dollars' worth in other prizes that include mobile devices, gift certificates, and more.

Platinum Sponsors for the Governor's Tournament of Champions include T Galleria, Triple J Motors, Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Marianas Visitor's Authority, and Chivas Regal.

Gold Sponsors include Chong's Corp., Joeten Motors, Power 99, IT&E, RNV Construction, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Blue Stone Management.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities for the 2019 TOC, contact Marie Sablan at 236-2572 or Amanda Ramon at 236- 2530. For player information and to download the registration form, visit www.tocSaipan.com. ***(PR)***

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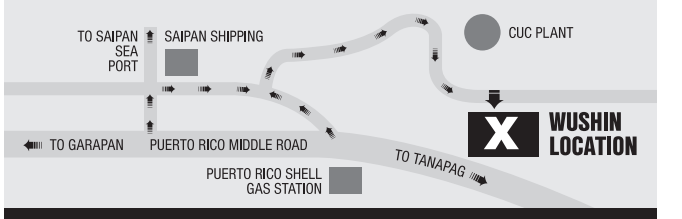

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NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

Ana C. Muna (collectively "Trustor"), on or about March 13, 1998, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on March 16, 1998 under Document No. 98-731 & 98-737 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 002 G 185, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 945 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 002 G 05 DATED MAY 31, 1989, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 90-1902, DATED MAY 14, 1990, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on August 22, 2017. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, **on August 26, 2019 , at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan**, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **Ninety-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Seven and 15/100 ($98,767.15)**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Aubry M. Hocog, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2019.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

Newly A. Agulto and Maria Rosa A. Agulto (collectively "Trustor"), on or about February 14, 2006, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on February 17, 2006 under Document No. 06-377 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 011 G 309, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 784 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 011 G 06 DATED DECEMBER 1, 1993, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 93-4414, DATED DECEMBER 16, 1993, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on August 22, 2017. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **August 26, 2019**, at **10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan**, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **One Hundred Six Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Six and 89/100 ($106,296.89)**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Aubry M. Hocog, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2019.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
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PUBLIC NOTICE

"This notice is paid for with HUD funds by NMHC"

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, Lt. Arnold I. Palacios, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, Aubry Hocog, wish to announce that the Program Year 2019 Annual Action Plan is available for the public's review and comments. The Action Plan encompasses applications for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (HESG) Programs in the Commonwealth. Comments may be directed to Ms. Tricia Tenorio, Planner, NMHC Central Office, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or by fax to (670) 234-9021. Deadline for the comment period is August 7, 2019, no later than 4:30 p.m.

The Plan is available for public review and inspection at NMHC's Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, and at the respective NMHC Field Offices in Tinian and Rota during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for CNMI holidays. Individuals needing special accommodations to review and comment on the plan must contact Mr. Jacob Muna for arrangements by calling (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours.

Zenie P. Mafnas
Deputy Corporate Director
/s/

"NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer."

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

Vera Lynn O. Manglona (collectively "Trustor"), on or about September 20, 2001, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on October 2, 2001 under Document No. 01-2162 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 330 R 322, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 838 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 330 R 08, DATED NOVEMBER 19, 1996 COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 92-746, DATED APRIL 02, 1997, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on August 22, 2017. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **August 26, 2019 , at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan**, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **One Hundred Seventeen Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Nine and 07/100 ($117,979.07)**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Aubry M. Hocog, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 19th day of June , 2019.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

One of 2 suspects in tourist robbery is released

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of two men suspected of robbing a tourist and her daughter along a street in Garapan was released on bail to his mother to await court proceedings from home.

Wilson Kenneth Caintoy Celeste, 24, who was arrested on charges of robbery, conspiracy to commit robbery, and receiving stolen property, was released from the Department of Corrections to his third-party custodian, his mother.

Celeste's lawyer, Samuel Mok, asked for the bail to be modified and waived Celeste's preliminary hearing last Monday during Celeste's preliminary hearing before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho.

Mok asked the court allow Celeste's family to post just 5% of the bail, $1,000, and put the rest up as an unsecured bond.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas did not object to the request and had no objections to the third-party custodian.

After few concerns that were addressed like Celeste's work schedule and how it would fit with the court's curfew, Camacho granted the bail modification and his family posted the $1,000 bail last Monday.

Celeste was ordered to return to court for his arraignment on Aug. 5 and to comply with court given instructions while out on bail like curfew, surrendering his travel documents, and more.

Celeste is also prohibited from speaking to his co-defendant, Carl Aldan, prohibited from having any contact with the victim and her daughter, and is prohibited from going near seaports and airports.

According to court information, Department of Public Safety officers responded to a report of a robbery on July 14 at around 7:22pm along Plumeria Avenue in Garapan. The victim was a tourist and her young daughter who reported that she was robbed by a man who ran out from a red Nissan Sentra and grabbed her purse while she and her daughter were walking.

On July 18, police found the red Nissan Sentra at Celeste's residence in Gualo Rai and brought him in for questioning.

Celeste allegedly confessed that he drove the vehicle that was used in the robbery but Aldan was the one who stole the tourist's purse.

Celeste said that he needed money so he sent Aldan a message through Facebook to borrow some from him. Aldan, in turn, told Celeste he knew of a way to make money quickly and all he needed to do was drive him.

Celeste said there was over $1,000 in the stolen purse, a Hermes watch, passports, and credit cards.

Celeste told police that Aldan gave him $400 from the stolen cash and Aldan took the rest and left in a taxi.

Valentino nominated to NMTI board

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate Executive Appointments and Government Investigation Committee started last Wednesday afternoon reviewing Mario Valentino's nomination to the new Northern Marianas Technical Institute board of trustees.

The committee, led by chair Sen. Francisco Cruz (R-Tinian), held its first public hearing last Wednesday on Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' nomination of Valentino, who is Triple J Saipan's construction operations manager, to the NMTI board.

"…Based on the résumé submitted, [Valentino] has tremendous experience in construction and other areas. In regards to skill, he is a specialist in construction" Cruz said. "He has been in [involved with] construction projects in different areas, companies, and projects."

As of publication, Cruz noted that the committee has found no reason to deny Valentino's nomination to the board. However, that does not mean Valentino's nomination is a shoo-in.

In an interview, Valentino noted that he has been with the NMTI board for over two years now.

"It was an honor for me to be nominated by the governor," he said. "I gladly accepted. Every time I give back to the community, it's great."

If the Senate approves his nomination, Valentino noted that he wishes to see the school grow even further.

That includes "…getting more students to [enroll in the school]," he said. "Right now, we are going to be working with some of the high schools and having counselors trying to come to [NMTI]."

A statement from the Office of the Governor's social media page noted that Valentino "has extensive experience as a project and operations manager in the private sector and has successfully managed home and business construction projects. He is well versed in construction compliance and regulations regarding quality control, permitting, and workplace safety.

"The administration believes that… [Valentino possesses] the skills and temperament to build our workforce capacity and expresses its full confidence in his ability to serve," it added.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Calling student writers in the CNMI

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is hosting a Student Writers Mystery Adventure on Saturday, Aug. 10, 2019 from 1pm to 4pm. It's free and open to all students of any age. The focus is on talking about, planning, and writing mysteries. Also prizes. ***(PR)***

MLSC probate workshop onThursday

The Marianas Office of Micronesian Legal Services Corp. will be presenting the seventh—and the last—in a series of probate workshops on Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019, at 3pm at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. The topic is wills (the different kinds, how to make one, etc.). The workshop is free and open to the public. ***(PR)***

Mariana Guide recertification deadline

Official Marianas Guides who applied for certification prior to June 1, 2019, are reminded to submit to the Marianas Visitors Authority evidence of completion of training at Northern Marianas College by Aug. 7, 2019, in order to receive their official badges. Applications that are 90 days past renewal date by Aug. 7, 2019, will be voided and paperwork and fees will need to be resubmitted. Tour operators are also reminded to submit quarterly employee listings to the MVA. Without the required documents, as stated above, Tour Operators or Tourist Land/ Sea Transport Operators are subjected to noncompliance in accordance to Public Law 18-58. For more information, contact MVA Tour Guide Certification manager Kuen-Hee Han at 1 (670) 664-3200 or khan@mymarianas.com. ***(MVA)***

SSHS registration

Saipan Southern High School is now accepting registration forms for school year 2019-2020. Please note that All ongoing students must re-register. Deadline for registration to be enrolled at SSHS will be on Aug. 21, 2019. If you have any other questions, email Victoria Apatang at victoria.apatang@cnmipss.org. ***(PR)***

Temporary office hours at KHS

Kagman High School has temporarily modified its office hours due to a power disruption on the campus that began on July 23. The repair process will bring the campus back to power as soon as Aug. 6. Until then, the office will be open from 7:30am to 3:30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding austerity Friday).

The public is being encouraged to plan for two to three days to process all requests that require printed documents, such as the enrollment verification, official transcript and withdrawals. As soon as the power is restored to campus, Kagman High School will resume normal government hours of operation from 7:30am to 4:30pm. ***(PR)***

Navy to conduct underwater training in Guam harbor

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Navy's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5 will conduct routine underwater detonation training on Aug. 7, from 8am to 4pm, at the following coordinates in outer Apra Harbor: 13°27.71''N/144°38.50''E.

EODMU-5 will detonate a total of five pounds of explosives at the designated UNDET location on a sandy area of the sea floor.

For the safety of the public and participants involved, the U.S. Coast Guard will establish safety zones to restrict access in the vicinity of the training area.

EODMU-5 performs routine underwater detonation training to develop the skills needed to be ready to rapidly respond to operational missions and unexploded ordnance support on Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. ***(PR)***

Guam tax refunds out

HAGATNA, Guam—Today, Department of Revenue & Taxation and Department of Administration will mail over 900 tax refund checks totaling approximately $ 2.6 million including refunds garnished to repay government debts for error free returns filed on or before Feb.13, 2019. For inquiries, contact Income Tax Branch, Department of Revenue & Taxation at (671) 635-1840 or Edward Birn, Department of Administration at (671) 475-1250. ***(PR)***

ATTENTION: 2001 - 2016 HONDA & ACURA OWNERS
Urgent Airbag Safety Recall
HONDA - CONTINUING OUR EFFORTS - ACURA
You and your passenger's safety may be at risk! Sharp metal fragments from airbag explosions have severely INJURED and KILLED vehicle occupants
FREE AIRBAG REPAIRS

ATTENTION HONDA & ACURA DRIVERS:
Please be aware that we have a safety recall under way to repair airbags, at no cost to you, in certain Honda and Acura vehicles.
If you have a Honda or Acura vehicle that is within the year range listed below, please contact us to see if your vehicle needs this urgent FREE repair. Thank you from the Honda Family.
For more information or to schedule an appointment for a FREE repair at a time that is most convenient for you, contact Joeten Motors at (670) 234-5568.
Joeten Motors POWERED BY YOU

QUICK FREE EASY
NHTSA NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Airbag deployment with explosion
AIRBAG RECALL
U.S. Department of Transportation
At Honda we care about your safety.

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

Beverly T. Dela Cruz (Ana Tydingco) (collectively "Trustor"), on or about January 31, 1994, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on February 8,1994 under Document No. 94-377 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 016 K 13, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 916 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 016 K 01, DATED APRIL 7, 1988, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 88-1096, DATED APRIL 8, 1988, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on August 22, 2017. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **August 26, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan**, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **Forty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty and 16/100 ($43,980.16)**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Aubry M. Hocog, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected**.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2019.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

Donovan San Nicolas Borja (collectively "Trustor"), on or about September 6, 2006, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on September 12, 2006 under Document No. 06-2244 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 107 T 167, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 898 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 107 T 03, DATED JANUARY 14, 1993, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 93-491, DATED FEBRUARY 4, 1993, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on August 22, 2017. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **August 26, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan**, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **One Hundred Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Seven and 79/100 ($115,387.79)**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Aubry M. Hocog, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.**

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2019.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

Juan K. Taitano (Victoria K. Taitano/Jose L. Taitano) (collectively "Trustor"), on or about October 23, 1985, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on October 23, 1985 under Document No. 85-2139 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 006 H 07, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 599 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 006 H 00, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERED WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 697, ON THE 1ST DAY OF MARCH, 1971.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on August 22, 2017. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **August 26, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan**, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **Eighty-One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Nine and 71/100 ($81,689.71)**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Aubry M. Hocog, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected**.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2019.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

Mary N. Taitano (Henry R. Taitano/Beatrice P. Villafuerte) (collectively "Trustor"), on or about January 4, 1985, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on January 10, 1985 under Document No. 85-0078 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 005 I 134, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 1,037 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 005 I 02, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERED WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOCUMENT NO. 16707 ON MARCH 11, 1983, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on August 22, 2017. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on **August 26, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan**, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **Ninety-Five Thousand One Hundred Fifteen and 61/100 ($95,115.61)**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Aubry M. Hocog, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **Thursday, August 22, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than Thursday, August 22, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected**.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 19th day of June, 2019.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

Award-winning docu show's tale of overcoming PTSD

By MARC VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An Emmy-nominated documentary that explores the impacts of post-traumatic stress disorder and one man's journey toward healing was the focus of a film screening at the American Memorial Park's Visitor Center Theatre last Tuesday, made more significant by the presence of one of the film's protagonist himself, Tom Voss.

The documentary, *Almost Sunrise*, starred Tom Voss and Anthony Anderson follows their journey from their homes in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Los Angeles, California, to raise awareness of the unrelenting pain of moral injury many vets face and are encouraged to seek treatment.

Voss served in the U.S. Army from 2003 to 2006 during the Iraq War. After returning home, he was diagnosed with PTSD. His path to healing eventually led to his journey with Anderson. The trip took about 155 days and the trip itself spanned over 2,700 miles. The two were able to generate a lot of attention through social media and news outlets during their journey.

The documentary itself won six awards, including the Cine Golden Globe Award and a nomination for Outstanding Current Affairs Documentary at the Emmy Awards.

Saipan residents will get another chance to catch the movie at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center Theatre tomorrow, Aug. 6, at 5pm.

Rota and Tinian residents will also get the opportunity to watch the movie as Voss will be visiting islands in the coming days. *Almost Sunrise* will be premiering on Tinian on Aug. 12 at the Kammer Beach Main Pavilion at 6:30pm; it will be premiering twice on Rota at Tiana's Restaurant on Aug. 15 at 5pm and at the Sinapalo Youth Center on Aug. 16 at 2pm.

Voss is happy to be back in the CNMI—his second visit. "The people are very welcoming and I am very grateful for having the opportunity to come and be here a lot longer than the last time," he said.

He was in the CNMI last year for five days as he attended the Power Breath Meditation workshop, and he will be in the CNMI this entire week.

The *Almost Sunrise* screening is a collaboration among the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, TanHoldings, and the American Memorial Park.

MARC A. VENUS

Tom Voss, left, speaks with spectators about his experience that led to the creation of "Almost Sunrise" last Tuesday at the American Memorial Park's Visitor Center.

Outdoor recreation workshop starts today

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI-wide workshop for the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, or SCORP, would start its workshops today, Monday, and is the ideal time to provide feedback on how you want to play and exercise in your future neighborhoods.

Starting with Saipan, the SCORP site assessments and public workshops will start today, Aug. 5, 2019, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe from 5pm to 7pm for the public. The center will be reserved from 9am to 11am for government agencies and stakeholders for provide their input.

The Rota workshop follows tomorrow, Aug. 6, 2019, at the Sinapalo Youth Center from 3pm to 6pm for the public, government agencies, and stakeholders while Tinian's workshop is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019 at the Tinian Public Library from 3pm to 5:30pm, also for the public, government agencies, and stakeholders.

The SCORP will outline the current and future needs for outdoor recreation and open space protection. The plan includes public input with a team from Horsley Witten Group, Inc. involved with the advisory committee, which will hold stakeholder meetings and interviews, along with public workshops to allow the public to share their input.

"I encourage our community to provide their input on our most precious resources. This will strengthen our plans to better conserve, develop and improve accessibility. Overall, the creation of this plan will strengthen our efforts for community-based activities and tourism. I am very pleased to see this moving forward as this grant program is fully funded, and all technical assistance will go toward improving public lands and recreation for years to come," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in a statement.

The Torres administration in a previous statement announced that the CNMI was recently awarded $131,162 to plan and develop a new comprehensive outdoor recreation plan for 2019-2024. The money is a National Park Service grant issued through the U.S. Department of the Interior.

"The SCORP will meet the National Park Service's planning eligibility requirements for the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund program… a valuable source of support for protecting resources and providing facilities for public recreational use," a statement from the administration noted, adding that the SCORP will also include wetlands priority plans, which is a requirement under federal law.

EMPOWER PARENTS · ENABLE BREASTFEEDING ·
WABA | WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2019

World Breastfeeding Week 2019
#WBW2019
AUG 1-7, 2019

"My experience being an EN mom returning to work was a challenge. WIC was able to answer any questions I had, from latching to storing milk to positioning my baby. I loved the bonding I had with my son, I felt that we had that special bond that any mother would have with their children when breastfeeding. Being a working mom and breastfeeding can be hard in the beginning, but don't ever quit; a breastfed happy baby leans towards a happy and proud mama. Thankfully my workplace was very helpful and supportive in giving me that time I needed for my son, I was able to pump at any time I needed to fulfill my son's needs."

Happy World Breastfeeding Week

Leiana Saures
WIC Participant

WIC CNMI

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider. This project was supported by Grant 7NM700NM5 CFDA 10.557 from USDA and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC). The contents above are solely the responsibility of CHCC and do not necessarily represent the official views of USDA."

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIX, Issue No. 153

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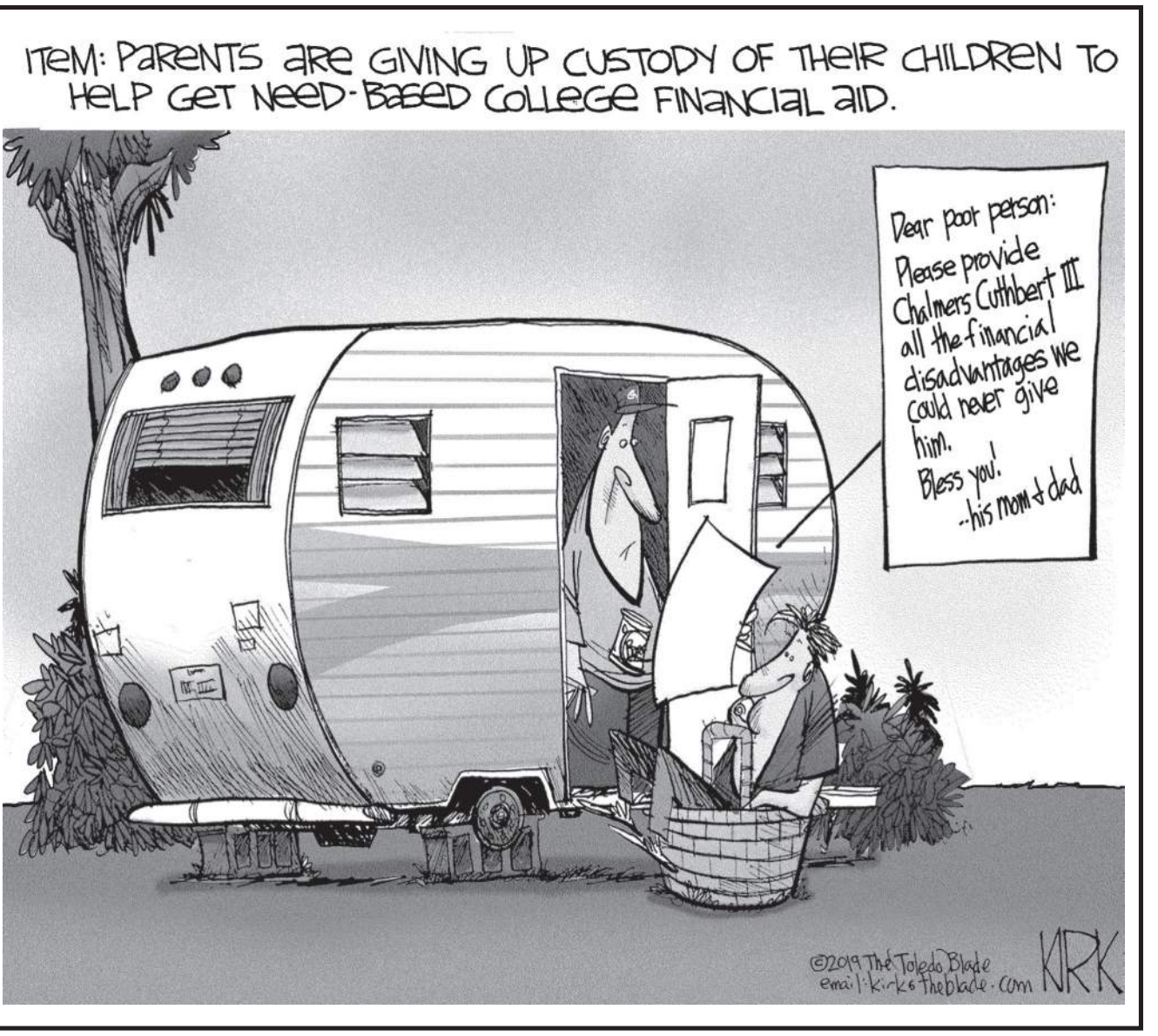
ITEM: PARENTS ARE GIVING UP CUSTODY OF THEIR CHILDREN TO HELP GET NEED-BASED COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID.
Dear poor person:
Please provide Chalmers Cuthbert III all the financial disadvantages we could never give him.
Bless you!
..his mom & dad
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email: kirk@theblade.com
KIRK

EDITORIAL

Intel chief must give hard truth about threats to US

The impending departure of Dan Coats as director of national intelligence is unfortunate. Whether the topic was Russia, Syria, North Korea or Iran, Coats consistently presented fact-based assessments even if they were at odds with President Donald Trump's public proclamations. Coats' downfall was that he did his job.

As his replacement, Trump has proposed Texas GOP Rep. John Ratcliffe. That's troubling—not least because Ratcliffe's most pertinent experience is his six-month stint on the House Intelligence Committee. Ratcliffe, who was elected in 2014 and has been a vociferous Trump supporter, spoke to the president about the job five days before last week's Robert Mueller hearing, then fiercely attacked the former special prosecutor during questioning. Apparently, the audition was a success.

We understand Trump's desire to change Washington and the intelligence community. But Ratcliffe doesn't have the chops to do that. The director of national intelligence doesn't have much statutory authority to make changes so directors must use their influence, relationships and experience to avoid being outmaneuvered. Ratcliffe has none of that and will be considered just another toady.

Texas Rep. Will Hurd, a Republican who served nine years as a CIA officer, is a better and more qualified choice. So are North Carolina Sen. Richard Burr, the GOP chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and even Long Island Rep. Lee Zeldin, who at least has served as an Army intelligence officer.

The director of national intelligence must be able to tell the president the truth about the threats facing the nation. That demands a straight shooter, not a sycophant.

(c) 2019 *Newsday*

Sending the wrong message

The long history of the U.S. military justice system, which predates the Constitution, offers many examples of the military's principled devotion to honor and good conduct. Personal responsibility is key. During World War II, for example, the U.S. held more than 1.7 million courts-martial proceedings.

This impressive, independent history seems irrelevant to President Donald Trump, who just ordered the rescinding of seven Navy Achievement Medals and three letters of commendation given to the prosecution team that failed to convict SEAL Special Operations Chief Edward Gallagher of killing an Iraqi prisoner. Such micromanagement and politicization of the military justice system is troubling.

Yes, prosecutors made mistakes. But Trump's public

See INTELLIGENCE on Next Page

Criminal defense lawyers are people too

By DANIEL SULEIMAN
The Baltimore Sun

Daniel Suleiman is a white-collar criminal defense and investigations partner in Covington & Burling LLP. He was deputy chief of staff of the justice department's criminal division from 2012-2013. He wrote this for the Baltimore Sun.

Take the first, and now infamous, sexual abuse investigation of Jeffrey Epstein. Mr. Epstein hired Alan Dershowitz and others to defend him, and the defense team succeeded in resolving the case with a federal non-prosecution agreement and a relatively minor state plea.

A journalist for NPR recently asked Mr. Dershowitz whether he now regrets having achieved such a favorable result for his client, who since has been arrested again and charged with sex trafficking. This is the wrong question to ask a criminal defense lawyer. Mr. Dershowitz's only mission at the time, in fact his ethical obligation, was to defeat the investigation or, if he couldn't do that, resolve it on the most favorable terms possible for his client. The better question—and the one that remains unanswered—is why, under the circumstances, federal prosecutors agreed to such a lenient deal.

Harvey Weinstein's sexual assault case in Manhattan is also instructive. Earlier this year, Mr. Weinstein hired Ronald Sullivan, a Harvard law professor who also served as the faculty dean of an undergraduate housing facility. Students protested, contending that they no longer felt safe in the dormitory, and the college ultimately forced him out as dean. The college's response didn't make sense. You are free to dislike, even despise, Mr. Weinstein, but what did his lawyer do?

There are many reasons not to attack an unpopular defendant's lawyer. A hallmark of our criminal justice system is that every criminal defendant has a constitutional right to the "assistance of counsel," which, according to the Supreme Court, means that he can retain a lawyer of his choice and mount his own defense. Or, if he cannot afford counsel, he can have one appointed to represent him.

Punishing the lawyer of a notorious defendant, or insinuating that she should regret doing her job well, chips away at this right. Doing so discourages lawyers from taking on unpopular clients, and it can deprive a defendant of his choice of counsel. Mr. Sullivan, for example, resigned from Mr. Weinstein's defense team shortly before he was ousted from his position as dean.

In addition, every criminal defendant has a right to be presumed innocent until proven otherwise. This presumption of innocence, a distinguishing feature of our legal system, is a critical safeguard against prosecutorial abuse. Punishing a lawyer because you disapprove of her client undermines this protection, reinforcing the perception that the defendant is already guilty.

Sometimes unpopular defendants are actually innocent. This is why—in addition to other hurdles criminal defendants must overcome, including access to qualified counsel—it's essential that every defendant be permitted to pursue his defense without having to worry that his lawyer will be attacked.

Still, there are limits. When a lawyer breaks the rules on behalf of a client, she deserves to be punished. In 2005, for example, a defense lawyer named Lynne Stewart was convicted for smuggling messages from her client, terrorist Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, also known as the "blind Sheikh," to his followers in violation of certain "special administrative measures" governing her representation.

Or take Michael Cohen: He was a zealous advocate for his client, Donald Trump, but he crossed the line into criminal conduct and was prosecuted as a result.

Mr. Dershowitz told NPR that "you should always feel bad about producing results" like the one he helped obtain in the Epstein case because the job of a criminal defense lawyer is "to do what you can to help your client and then to feel bad about it."

That overstates the case. Rather than regret her success, a lawyer usually has the option to decline a particular representation, and it has been reported that Mr. Dershowitz, who faces his own legal troubles over his association with Mr. Epstein, regrets having taken him on as a client.

But when a defense lawyer takes on an unpopular client, she may also be carrying out what's noblest about the legal profession. Every criminal defendant deserves, and is entitled to, a defense. Punishing a lawyer for representing her client undermines that guarantee.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

NMPASI receives funding for new program

By GREG BORJA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

On April 13, the President signed the Strengthening Protections for Social Security Beneficiaries Act of 2018. The law directs state Protection & Advocacy system organizations to conduct all periodic onsite reviews along with additional discretionary reviews. In addition, the P&As will conduct educational visits and conduct reviews based on allegations they receive of payee misconduct. The CNMI state P&A is the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc., or NMPASI.

Representative payees are responsible for keeping records and, when requested, reporting to Social Security how they spend the benefits received on behalf of a Social Security beneficiary or Supplemental Security Income recipient. Representative Payees may receive a report form used to account for the Social Security or SSI benefits received or we may select you for a representative payee review. The review is to determine if you have performed the following duties:

- Managed funds so the beneficiary(ies) have no unmet current needs
- Accounted for all funds received and spent
- Conserved any unspent funds in appropriate manner, and
- Complied with representative payee accounting and reporting responsibilities.
- When allegations of payee misconduct are received by NMPASI, a review is conducted which includes:
- an interview with the individual or organizational representative payee;
- a review of the representative payee's financial records for the requested beneficiary or sample of beneficiaries served;
- a home visit and interview for each beneficiary included in the review; and
- an interview with legal guardians and third parties, when applicable.
- When NMPASI schedules the review, the reviewer will request the records needed for each beneficiary. Some common financial documents that representative payees may be asked to provide are:

  • a beneficiary budget;
  • a beneficiary ledger;
  • individual bank statements;
  • Collective account bank statements;
  • receipts of income;
  • account balances;
  • bank reconciliation records;
  • cancelled checks;
  • expense documentation including receipts, bills, and rental agreements;
  • how the payee keeps conserved benefits (e.g., checking, savings, etc.); and
  • any other financial documents that pertain to a beneficiary's Social Security and/or SSI benefits.

If the results of the review find that the payee is not fulfilling the duties of a representative payee, corrective action(s) may be required in order for the payee to continue to serve. NMPASI or the Social Security Administration will contact the payee to explain the findings and initiate a corrective action. Once all corrective actions are satisfactorily completed, NMPASI or the Social Security Administration will notify the payee in writing that the review is complete.

If the review finds that no corrective action is required, the representative payee will receive a notice advising them that the review is complete.

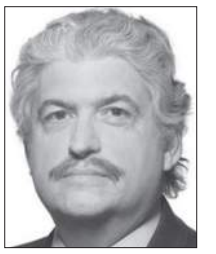
To ensure satisfactory oversight of Social Security and SSI benefits, NMPASI will conduct a home visit and interview of beneficiaries served by the representative payee selected for a review. If applicable, NMPASI will also conduct an interview with legal guardians or third parties.

Resources are available for Representative Payees at the Social Security website: https://www.ssa.gov/payee/

For more information about Protections for Social Security Beneficiaries or to report suspect misconduct by a Representative Payee, contact NMPASI at 235-7273/7274 or visit us online at www.nmpasi.org.

Saving food stamps for the poor, not the prosperous

By MARIE FISHPAW AND ROBERT RECTOR
The Heritage Foundation



Maria Fishpaw is the Director of Domestic Policy Studies at The Heritage Foundation (heritage.org). Robert Rector is a senior research fellow for domestic policy studies at Heritage.

Today, millionaires can get food stamps, a safety-net welfare program intended to make sure lower-income people have the ability to access food. The Trump administration recently issued new regulations to close the loopholes that enabled this abuse.

That's not how it's being depicted by some activists on the left, though. According to them, the Trump administration is "literally taking food out of lot of hungry people's mouths" in order to score political points.

The reality: Americans are generous and compassionate. We spend more than $1.1 trillion per year providing cash, food, housing and medical care through 90 major government programs to help the poor and near-poor. The administration's proposed reforms are a good first step toward needed changes to ensure our tax dollar investments go to the truly needy.

The administration's proposal reaffirms existing federal law defining who is eligible for food stamps. The reform is needed to reverse abuses enabled by Obama-era administration regulators via a concept called "broad-based categorical eligibility" (BBCE).

On the surface, the idea seems well-intentioned: help hungry, low-income people who don't know they are eligible for help. In reality, states used it as a loophole to get around food stamps' federal eligibility limits, ignore the asset requirements in food stamps, and so allow millions of families with as much as $100,000 in cash in the bank to receive benefits.

States are willing to game the system because 100% of the costs of food stamps are paid for by the federal government. It's highly unlikely they'd waste their own money in this way.

The results? 34 states and Washington, D.C. use this loophole, and more than 5 million people now on the program don't meet the federal law's eligibility criteria for food stamps. These recipients include, according to research by the Foundation for Government Accountability, more than 10,000 lottery winners in Michigan and 4,000 lottery winners in Maine – some of whom won multimillion-dollar prizes. Plus the occasional millionaire with income or assets far above the federal limits.

In the case of millionaire Rob Undersand, he applied for food stamps to expose problems in Minnesota. He got approved for benefits—donating them to the needy—and went public because, as he says in a YouTube video, "he's not against the food stamp program, there are needy people out there, and I want them to have temporary help." To do that, the law needs to be changed "so that the money goes to the truly needy."

And that's what the Trump administration's changes will help do. The proposed rule change is a reasonable step rooted in a principle that waste and fraud in the welfare system should be eliminated. That's a concept that enjoys popular support from more than 94% of Americans.

Estimates suggest the change will lead to about 3.1 million individuals – nearly all with high levels of liquid assets—dropping off the food stamps program. That will leave 33 million Americans getting food stamps, nearly double the number 20 years ago, even though the labor market is stronger than it has been in decades.

To address the reasons behind these high figures, the administration and Congress will need to do more. Analysis by the Heritage Foundation has identified additional loopholes that allow states to avoid federal laws requiring work-capable beneficiaries to work as a condition of receiving benefits. That should change – because work is a critical path out of poverty.

Ultimately Congress will need to act to fully address the situation. But in the near term, the administration could make changes that could result in 4.5 million work capable people who get food stamps working or preparing to work.

That's reform that more than 90% of Americans agree with. It builds on the principle of providing assistance to the needy while also encouraging people to strive towards self-support, which the welfare system as a whole is failing to do today.

INTELLIGENCE

From Page 10

intervention in the Gallagher case, his May decision to pardon an Army Ranger convicted of murdering an Afghan detainee and the subsequent reports—which the White House did not deny—that he is considering several more full pardons for military men accused or convicted of war crimes in Iraq or Afghanistan send a message to all of America's military members about what will be tolerated.

It feels less like loyalty to American troops than autocratic intervention and a shoulder-shrugging sympathy for rule breaking. As former Gen. Colin Powell said, "Soldiers watch what their leaders do." The military has a chain of command with the president at the top. But it also has values that foster responsibility. These values deserve preservation.

(c)2019 *The San Diego Union-Tribune*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A couple of ideas

Dear Mr. Governor: It's great to be home! It's unfortunate what happened here from Super Typhoon Yutu but how about we make the schools a priority and repair these classrooms? Some school fences open right up to the roads! We're marking the days off and, before we know, it it's the first day of school. They say the children are our future, but all we're showing them is that we can push off the importance of education.

I've driven here all my life but when you can't even see if you're in the correct lane, especially during rainy season, that's a concern. Went off my lane a couple of times due to lines no longer visible. These roads need serious painting! We have road signs that are still bent over. Stops signs that have flown off and the posts are still bare.

Since we're on the subject of roads, we have an issue with abandoned cars by the main roads and dilapidated buildings nearly everywhere! And many are prior to Yutu! Where is the money to fix these issues? Does our government not see these eyesores?

Businesses need paintings. It'll help the island look livelier and well-maintained.

The Hyatt/American Memorial park area has sewage issues. No one smells that?

Our people are still in tents! Open up the building by the airport that's been sitting for years! And offer it to the people!

We need a way to encourage more people to make the street markets on Thursdays livelier. If these events are posted on our brochures or websites, they need help! I give it up to I Love Saipan for having entertainment every night. That business is welcoming and lively. Good job, guys!

Do car rental dealerships have a short video or some type of demonstration in different languages to explain the regulations on the roads and how to drive here? If not, then it needs to be done. We can't point a finger and assume they know our regulations, when in reality they don't.

Again, for the safety of everyone, road signs need to be replaced immediately. We have people new to the island and we have our student drivers on the roads as well. We need to understand that other parts of the world don't have lines on the roads or dividers; offer them maps if you don't already. Explain the importance of staying on your lane. Again, this video doesn't have to be long!

We have beautiful islands and great hospitality by our people. Let the islands reflect that same welcoming atmosphere to outsiders, but most of all to ourselves. We deserve a clean, well-maintained home. One step at a time.

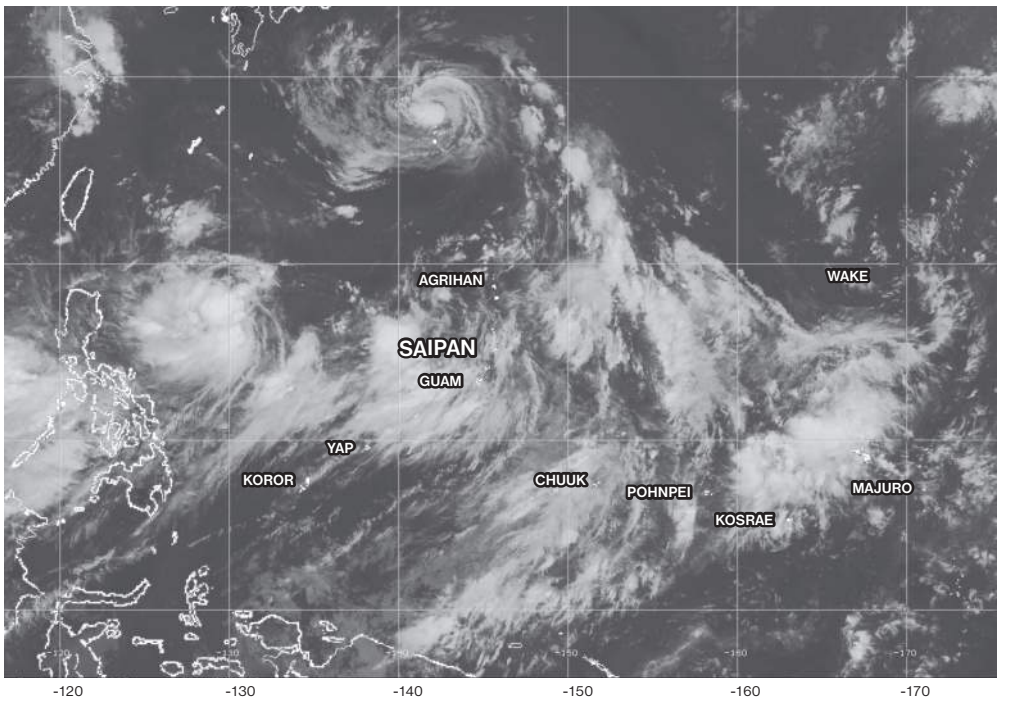
Diana Villagomez Acebedo
As Perdido, Saipan

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Cloudy and breezy with numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Cloudy with numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 20 mph.	Cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
85° 77°	85° 77°	85° 77°	85° 77°	85° 77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:14 AM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Himawari Satellite shows numerous showers moving through the Marianas waters. The buoys reveal 5 to 7 foot seas composed mainly of 2 to 4 foot southwest wind waves and 3 to 5 foot southwest swell which is expected to grow as the day continues.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	55° / 48°
Beijing	Showers	84° / 73°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	89° / 78°
London	Partly Cloudy	79° / 61°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	82° / 67°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	57° / 45°
Miami	Thunderstorms	89° / 79°
New York	Thunderstorms	86° / 71°
Osaka	Thunderstorms	91° / 81°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	84° / 64°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	84° / 77°
Rome	Sunny	90° / 68°
Salem	Thunderstorms	85° / 68°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	65° / 55°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	95° / 77°
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	84° / 75°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	88° / 72°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
5:03 AM	LOW TIDE	0.95
10:17 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.03
5:09 PM	LOW TIDE	0.23
11:38 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.14

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:00 AM	6:45 PM
Tuesday	6:00 AM	6:45 PM
Wednesday	6:00 AM	6:45 PM
Thursday	6:00 AM	6:44 PM
Friday	6:00 AM	6:45 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:53 AM	10:19 PM	-
Tuesday	10:51 AM	11:04 PM	-
Wednesday	11:47 AM	11:48 PM	-
Thursday	12:42 PM	-	-
Friday	-	12:33 AM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 27, 2019

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	1, 2, 3, 5, 7
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

USCIS to end categorical parole programs for Filipino vets, Haitians

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced Friday that it intends to terminate two categorical parole programs: the Haitian Family Reunification Parole program and the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole program.

In a statement announcing the move, USCIS said this decision is consistent with Executive Order 13767, Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements, and to better ensure that parole is used only on a case-by-case basis, consistent with the law.

Parole is a process that allows foreign nationals to temporarily enter or remain in the United States, including those who are otherwise inadmissible.

Under both categorical parole programs for termination, individuals with approved family-based immigrant petitions have been authorized to enter and work in the United States while waiting for their green card to become available.

"The decision to end these parole programs ends the expedited processing that was made available to these populations in a categorical fashion. It follows an extensive review to better ensure that parole authority under the Immigration and Nationality Act is exercised on a case-by-case basis when there is a significant public benefit or urgent humanitarian reason," the USCIS statement added.

Categorical parole refers to programs designed to consider parole for entire groups of individuals based on pre-set criteria.

"Under these categorical parole programs, individuals have been able to skip the line and bypass the proper channels established by Congress. With the termination of these programs, these individuals will no longer be permitted to wait in the United States for their family-based green card to become available, consistent with the rules that apply to the rest of the world," said acting USCIS director Ken Cuccinelli. "Parole is to be used on a case-by-case basis for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit. USCIS is committed to exercising this limited authority in a manner that preserves the integrity of our immigration system and does not encourage aliens to unlawfully enter the United States."

At the same time, USCIS continues to review all remaining categorical parole programs.

"USCIS will not terminate any program until we complete required administrative changes to Form I-131, Application for Travel Document, and the form is approved for public use," the statement added.

The Paperwork Reduction Act process will provide notice to the affected individuals, explain the reasons USCIS is taking action, and provide public comment periods on the termination of these programs.

Current parolees will maintain their current period of parole until its expiration, unless it is otherwise terminated. USCIS will also process all pending cases to completion.

In addition, parolees who have not adjusted status or been admitted may request parole under the non-categorical process by filing Form I-131, in accordance with the form instructions.

Additional information on applying for non-categorical parole is available on the Humanitarian or Significant Public Benefit Parole for Individuals Outside the United States page.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, visit uscis.gov. ***(PR)***

Drones relocate to Japan as typhoon season ramps up in western Pacific

By AARON KIDD
STARS AND STRIPES

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan—The U.S. Air Force is again sending one of its most high-tech intelligence-gathering platforms to Japan to sidestep extreme weather in the western Pacific.

A detachment of RQ-4 Global Hawks from the 69th Reconnaissance Group, 9th Reconnaissance Wing at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, will operate out of Yokota this summer and fall, the 374th Airlift Wing said in a statement Friday. The western Tokyo base is also home to U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force.

The statement did not say how many of the large, unmanned surveillance drones are relocating to Yokota or when they would begin arriving; however, five Guam-based Global Hawks and 105 personnel worked from the base in 2017.

The detachment is responsible for launching and landing the Global Hawks before handing control to airmen at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., and Beale Air Force Base, Calif. Their mission involves partnering with Japan and helping with humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and counter-piracy and counter-terrorism.

The drones routinely relocate to Japan to avoid typhoons in Guam and the nearby Northern Mariana Islands, which include Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Last year saw 35 storms, including seven super typhoons, blow across the western Pacific. One of those, Yutu, the second strongest typhoon to ever hit a U.S. state or territory since record keeping began in 1958, devastated Saipan and Tinian in October.

Months earlier, Super Typhoon Wutip brushed by Guam at 161 mph and interrupted the Cope North Exercise at Andersen.

In previous years, Guam's Global Hawk detachment has flown out of Misawa Air Base on the northern tip of Japan's Honshu island. The drones moved to Yokota in 2017 because of runway construction at Misawa, which hosted the aircraft again last year.

The platform made international headlines in June when Iran used a surface-to-air missile to shoot down a Global Hawk over the Strait of Hormuz. Tehran said it was flying in Iranian airspace, but U.S. Central Command maintains it was in international airspace.

The Northrop Grumman-built drones, which can cost $100 million depending on configuration, are thought to be capable of operating at an altitude of 60,000 feet, high above civilian air traffic, which normally does not surpass 40,000 feet. They can stay aloft for 34 hours and have a range of 14,000 miles. ***(https://www.stripes.com/news/pacific/global-hawk-surveillance-drones-relocate-to-japan-as-typhoon-season-ramps-up-in-western-pacific-1.593114)***

Hazard warning out for small vessels

A strong monsoon surge in western Micronesia has created large southwest swells that are headed to the Marianas and will create hazardous sailing conditions for small craft through at least Tuesday night.

A small craft advisory is now in effect until 6am Wednesday.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, seas of 5 to 7 feet will build to 8 to 10 feet and southwest winds of 10 to 15 knots will increase to 15 to 20 knots, with frequent gusts to 25 knots and occasional gusts of 30 knots.

A small craft advisory means that wind speeds of 22 to 33 knots are expected to produce wave conditions hazardous to small craft.

Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid sailing in these conditions. ***(PR)***

Public domain image shows a Global Hawk maintainer.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP19-CHCC/CGC-SYSTEMS OF CARE-019

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 09, 2019 **TIME: 5:00 PM**

"EVALUATION SERVICES"

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [**WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP**]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

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CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ SUBROTO BANERJI
ACTING CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

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E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05-2019

Opening date: July 22, 2019 **Closing date: August 06, 2019**

Positions:
(1) Receptionist/Secretary (Saipan)
(1) Ports Police Officer-I (Saipan)
(1) Electrician (Saipan)
(1) ARFF General Maintenance-I (Saipan)
(1) ARFF/Ports Police Officer-I (Rota)
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Rota)
(1) General Maintenance-I (Tinian)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the ***CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport***. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 06, 2019**.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at jadene.villagomez@cpa.gov.mp or hrspecialist@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670)237-6500.

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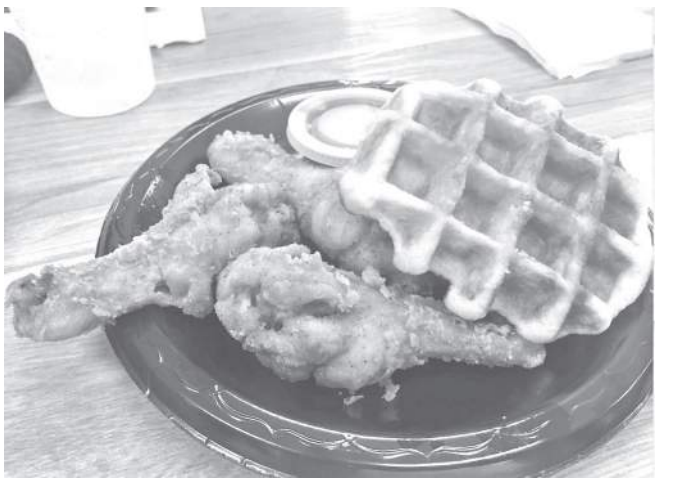
CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Business

KFC's Chicken & Waffles finally arrives

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MARK RABAGO
Chicken & Waffles and Cinnabon Dessert Biscuits are now available at Kentucky Fried Chicken Saipan.



MARK RABAGO
Customers can have a choice of a Chicken and Waffle Meal or a Chicken and Waffle Sandwich.

MARK RABAGO
KFC/Taco Bell Saipan is located at the Town House Shopping Center along Beach Road in Chalan Kanoa.

Kentucky Fried Chicken Saipan is finally serving the long-anticipated Chicken & Waffles meal this month and also rolled out other dishes in a promotion it dubs Flavor Madness.

Yole P. Aldan, KFC/Taco Bell Saipan manager, said Chicken & Waffles and the Cinnabon Dessert Biscuits are part of the franchise's international promotion.

"Chicken and waffles" is an American dish that simply combines chicken and waffles. It satisfies craving for a salty and sweet dish. In KFC's case, customers can order original recipe, extra crispy, or grilled for their chicken meal with the waffles drenched in Mrs. Butterworth's syrup. They can also have their choice of the Chicken and Waffle Meal or the Chicken and Waffle Sandwich.

The fastfood giant's Cinnabon Dessert Biscuit, meanwhile, is a KFC biscuit topped with Cinnabon cinnamon brown sugar glaze and cream cheese frosting. The dessert hits all the sugary and cinnamon notes of a regular Cinnabon roll and starts at an affordable $1.90 for two pieces.

Aside from the international rollouts, Aldan said KFC/Taco Bell is also promoting its Island Fried Rice and Grande Nacho Box meals.

The restaurant has always served Island Fried Rice and its KFC/Taco Bell Saipan's twist in local fried rice, while the Grande Nachos Box features a super-sized layer of chips topped with a double serving of seasoned beef or shredded chicken, refried beans, nacho cheese sauce, reduced-fat sour cream, a three-cheese blend, pico de gallo, and guacamole.

Grande Nacho Box is designed to give customers more bang for their buck whenever they want to indulge in this Tex-Mex treat.

Another offering that KFC/Taco Bell Saipan launched in August is its Twister Mo wrap. It is named after Ramona Jones, the CEO of Jones & Guerrero, which is the local franchisee of the Saipan branch of KFC/Taco Bell.

Aldan said Twister Mo is a wrap with 100% chicken breast fillet, carrots, and cucumber, and hoisin sauce. The latter is a thick, fragrant sauce commonly used in Chinese cuisine as a glaze for meat. It comes in solo or combo meals.

KFC/Taco Bell Saipan is located at the Town House Shopping Center along Beach Road in Chalan Kanoa. It is open from 8am to 9pm.

North Dakota ends ban on Sunday morning shopping

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP)—North Dakota retailers for the first time since statehood may open Sunday mornings but Jeff Hinz will keep his hardware stores closed, opting instead to sit in a pew with his family at church.

"I'm content for now to leave it as is," said Hinz, who will continue to open his two Bismarck businesses at noon. "I don't want to work Sunday morning. I like going to church. If a guy really needs a bag of dirt on Sunday morning, well then, I'm going to lose him."

Though Hinz says he won't be opening, business leaders say most retailers, which must now compete with online shopping, hope to cash in on the expanded hours.

After decades of debate and a growing belief voters would overturn the law rooted in religious tradition, North Dakota's Republican-led Legislature in March repealed the Sunday restrictions, the nation's toughest.

The law took effect on Aug. 1 and Sunday is the first day it becomes reality.

Blue laws have existed since North Dakota became a state in 1889, stemming from fears that visiting a retail store on Sunday morning would compete with church and erode family values, leaving little time for rest.

The National Conference of State Legislatures says about a dozen states have some form of Sunday sales laws, but only North Dakota required most retailers to close from midnight to noon on Sundays.

Fargo Republican Rep. Shannon Roers Jones, the bill's primary sponsor, believes the stripping the law from the books will prove popular with residents and businesses.

"I think the majority of state wants to make decisions for themselves," she said.

The state Supreme Court has twice upheld the Sunday shopping ban, once in the mid-1960s and again in the early 1990s, ruling that the law was not to aid religion, but rather to set aside a day for "rest and relaxation."

North Dakota once required most businesses to stay closed on Sundays, but that was changed in 1985 to allow grocery stores to open. In 1991, the Legislature agreed to allow most businesses to open on Sundays, but not before noon.

Tax Commissioner Ryan Rauschenberger said North Dakota had a "discernable" rise in sales tax collections following the 1991 relaxation of the law, and he expects the same now that it is scrubbed from the books altogether.

"We've always believed more hours and more opportunities leads people to spending more," Rauschenberger said. "More hours in which to shop will mean more shopping will occur."

People also may be more tempted to buy from local businesses on Sunday mornings rather than online, he said.

"Money spent locally has a multiplying factor and boosts the economy," he said.

The Greater North Dakota Association, the state's chamber of commerce that represents more than 1,000 members, has long supported lifting the ban.

Arik Spencer, the chamber's president and CEO, said most large retailers in the state will extend their hours into Sunday mornings.

"By and large, people are very happy with the repeal," said "This allows businesses to decide to be open or not."

The law leaves in place the state's all-day ban on Sunday vehicle sales and half-day ban on Sunday alcohol sales. Shopping malls and building owners may not require that a business in the facility be open on Sunday.

Hinz, the owner of the Bismarck hardware stores, also is chairman of the North Dakota Retail Association, which has been split over the Sunday shopping ban and had taken a neutral stance on it.

A problem that likely will face most businesses, Hinz said, is finding employees to work on Sunday moring because of the state's tight labor pool. Gov. Doug Burgum has estimated the state has 30,000 more jobs than takers.

Hinz employs 60 people at his two stores, each of which are open 75 hours a week.

Thousands of South Koreans protest Japanese trade curbs

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Waving banners and signs and chanting anti-Japan slogans, thousands of South Koreans marched in Seoul on Saturday to express their anger at Japan's decision to downgrade South Korea's trade status amid an escalating diplomatic row.

Huge crowds swarmed the streets in front of the Japanese Embassy, carrying signs that read "Boycott Japan" and "No Abe," referring to Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. They shouted "We condemn the Abe government" and "Let's end humiliating South Korea-Japan relations."

The protesters later marched to a nearby boulevard for a candlelight vigil, also calling for the Seoul government to end a military intelligence-sharing pact with Tokyo and fully discard a 2015 deal between the countries over compensating South Korean women who were forced to work in Japan's World War II military brothels.

Police didn't immediately provide a crowd estimate, but organizers said about 15,000 people participated in the rallies.

The protest came a day after Japan's Cabinet approved the removal of South Korea from a list of countries with preferential trade status, which would require Japanese companies to apply for case-by-case approvals for exports to South Korea of hundreds of items deemed sensitive.

The decision followed a July measure to strengthen controls on certain technology exports to South Korean companies that rely on Japanese materials to produce semiconductors and display screens used in smartphones and TVs, which are key South Korean export products.

South Korea says the Japanese trade curbs could hurt its export-dependent economy and has accused Japan of weaponizing trade to retaliate over bilateral disputes stemming from their bitter wartime history.

The Japanese trade measures have stoked public anger in South Korea, where many believe Japan still hasn't fully atoned for atrocities committed during its colonial occupation of Korea from 1910 to 1945.

Nation

20 killed, 26 wounded when gunman attacks Texas shoppers

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—A young gunman opened fire in an El Paso, Texas, shopping area packed with as many as 3,000 people during the busy back-to-school season Saturday, leaving 20 dead and more than two dozen injured.

Authorities were investigating the possibility the shooting was a hate crime, working to confirm whether a racist, anti-immigrant screed posted online shortly beforehand was written by the man arrested in the attack on the 680,000-resident border city.

El Paso Police Chief Greg Allen said the suspect was arrested without police firing any shots outside the Walmart near the Cielo Vista Mall, about 5 miles (8 kilometers) from the main border checkpoint with Ciudad Juárez, Mexico.

Two law enforcement officials who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity identified the suspect as 21-year-old Patrick Crusius. El Paso police didn't release his name at a news conference but confirmed the gunman is from Allen, near Dallas.

Many of the victims were shot at the Walmart, according to police, who provided updates about the shooting in English and Spanish throughout the day in the largely Latino city.

"The scene was a horrific one," said Allen, adding that many of the 26 people who were hurt had life-threatening injuries.

AP

An El Paso police officer talks to a store employee following a shooting at a shopping mall in El Paso, Texas, on Saturday, Aug. 3, 2019.

The shooting came less than a week after a 19-year-old gunman killed three people and injured 13 others at the popular Gilroy Garlic Festival before dying of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Residents quickly volunteered to give blood to the injured after the El Paso shooting, and police and military members were helping people look for missing loved ones.

"It's chaos right now," said Austin Johnson, an Army medic at nearby Fort Bliss, who volunteered to help at the shopping center and later at a school serving as a reunification center.

Adriana Quezada, 39, said she was in the women's clothing section of Walmart with her two children when she heard gunfire.

"But I thought they were hits, like roof construction," she said of the shots.

Her 19-year-old daughter and 16-year-old son threw themselves to the ground, then ran out of the store through an emergency exit. They were not hurt, Quezada said.

She said she saw four men, dressed in black, moving together firing guns indiscriminately. Police later said they believed the suspect, who was armed with a rifle, was the only shooter.

Ryan Mielke, a spokesman for University Medical Center of El Paso, said 13 of the injured were brought to the hospital with injuries, including one who died. Two of the injured were children who were being transferred to El Paso Children's Hospital, he said. He wouldn't provide additional details on the victims.

Eleven other victims were being treated at Del Sol Medical Center, hospital spokesman Victor Guerrero said. Those victims' ages ranged from 35 to 82, he said.

Relatives said a 25-year-old woman who was shot while holding her 2-month-old son was among those killed, while Mexican officials said three Mexican nationals were among the dead and six more were wounded.

President Donald Trump tweeted: "God be with you all!"

ACROSS THE NATION

Romanian tourist dies in accident at Yosemite National Park

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, Calif. (AP)—A Romanian tourist has died in a fall near a waterfall in Yosemite National Park in California. Authorities say 21-year-old Lucian Miu was scrambling on wet rocks below Bridalveil Fall on Wednesday when he fell about 20 feet. He died at a hospital. The Fresno Bee says two other people were injured in separate falls in the park this week. One had hiked to a viewing platform below Bridalveil Fall on Monday and then slipped while climbing up a boulder field toward a pool at the base. The other slipped off a boulder at Lower Yosemite Fall and fell into a creek Thursday, becoming trapped underwater between rocks before managing to escape.

Speedway car flips over fence after crash, kills man

MECHANICSBURG, Pa. (AP)—Authorities say a car flipped over the infield fence at a central Pennsylvania speedway and struck a track volunteer, killing him. The Cumberland County coroner's office said two Sprint car drivers crashed into each other while rounding a turn at Williams Grove Speedway just before 9:30 p.m. Friday. Coroner Charles Hall said one of the cars went out of control, hit the inside wall and then flipped up and over the infield fence, striking Richard Speck Jr., who was sitting in the back of a pickup truck parked along the fence. Speck, 67, of Mechanicsburg, was pronounced dead at the scene, Hall said. Speck volunteered at the track driving a push truck, which assists the open-wheel race cars on and off the track. Vicky Leah, who said she had been Speck's neighbor in Mechanicsburg for five years, told the York Daily Record she was devastated by the news.

Threat prompts Tennessee school to remove Trump painting

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—Tennessee school officials have removed a piece of student art depicting President Donald Trump and the Statue of Liberty after receiving a threat. According to news reports, the painting has been hung in the hallway of Southwind High School—located just outside of Memphis—since 2016. The painting showed Trump with his mouth covered by white brush strokes and the Statue of Liberty covering her face. School officials say the painting has not sparked any complaints over the years. However, the painting recently gained attention on social media and the school decided to remove it after receiving a threatening phone call on Friday. The district says it respects students' rights to free speech and encouraged students to express themselves "through art or in any other peaceful manner."

Trump administration pushes to speed up migrant family cases

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Rosita Lopez said armed gang members demanded money from her and her partner at their small grocery store on the Guatemalan coast and threatened to kill them when they couldn't pay. When her partner was shot soon afterward, they sold everything and fled north.

Lopez was eight months pregnant when the couple arrived at the U.S.-Mexico border last year with their 1-year-old daughter. Just over a year later, an immigration judge in Los Angeles heard her case, denied her asylum and ordered her deported.

"I'm afraid of going back there," she told the judge.

The decision for 20-year-old Lopez—who now has an American-born baby—was swift in an immigration court system so backlogged with cases that asylum seekers often wait years for a hearing, let alone a ruling on whether they can stay in the country.

But her case is one of 56,000 in a Trump administration pilot program in 10 cities from Baltimore to Los Angeles aimed at fast-tracking court hearings to discourage migrants from making the journey to seek refuge in the United States. The administration selected family cases in those cities from the past 10 months.

Immigration lawyers who often complain that it takes too long to get a court date said the new timetable is too fast to prepare their clients to testify and get documents from foreign countries to bolster their claims.

"The families that are all ready to go and desperate, ready with counsel, have survived multiple atrocities can't seem to get before the judge, and others who seem to need time to get their cases together, they're pushing through without due process," said Judy London, directing attorney of the immigrant rights' project at Public Counsel, a pro bono law firm in Los Angeles.

The program is one way the Trump administration is seeking to curtail the arrival of tens of thousands of Central American families each month on the U.S.-Mexico border, many seeking asylum. Federal courts have blocked several efforts to limit asylum for the families, including rules that would prevent most migrants from seeking asylum in the U.S. if they passed through another country first .

Speeding up court hearings aims to prevent migrant families from setting down roots while they wait to find out whether they qualify for asylum.

Immigrants can get permits to work legally in the United States once their asylum applications are pending before a judge for six months, which many with fast-tracked cases won't get to do, lawyers said.

The goal is to "disincentivize families—where an overwhelming majority of cases don't qualify for relief, but instead end with removal orders—from making the treacherous journey to the United States," Immigration and Customs Enforcement said in a statement.

Immigration courts aim to complete the fast-tracked cases within a year, James McHenry III, director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review, wrote in a November memo.

From September to June, the Department of Homeland Security tracked 56,000 cases it wants heard more quickly, according to data from the office, which runs immigration courts. Most cases are pending, but about one in five of those immigrants failed to show up for a hearing and was ordered deported, the data shows.

Asia

HK police arrest over 20 protesters in new scuffles

AP
A woman shouts at a police officer in Wong Tai Sin district in Hong Kong during the early hours of Sunday, Aug. 4, 2019.

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong police said Sunday that they arrested more than 20 people for unlawful assembly, assault and other offences after confrontations between protesters and authorities continued deep into the night.

Police said some violent protesters hurled petrol bombs, bricks, glass bottles and other objects at officers and refused to disperse at the pre-approved location on Saturday.

A peaceful pro-democracy rally devolved after protesters ignored police appeals to stick to the designated route, instead splintering off to various locations across Hong Kong's northern Kowloon area. Some blocked streets and a major tunnel while others surrounded two different police stations, damaging vehicles parked inside one lot.

The demonstrators committed arson at various locations, at one point pushing a burning trash bin toward officers, police said in a Sunday statement. In a different neighborhood, according to police, protesters hurled fireworks and broke windows on residential buildings, threatening residents' safety.

Residents in one neighborhood, however, banded together with protesters and surrounded a police station, yelling at riot police to leave.

Hong Kong has been rocked by nearly two months of mass demonstrations. They began as protests against a now-suspended extradition bill, but have since ballooned into broader calls for greater democratic rights and government accountability. A central demand of the largely leaderless movement is an independent investigation into alleged police abuse, including tactics used against protesters and the authorities' response to a mob attack in a commuter rail station that left 44 people injured.

Rallies in two different districts are expected Sunday ahead of a general strike Monday.

A former British colony, Hong Kong was returned to China under the framework of "one country, two systems," which promises the city certain democratic freedoms not afforded to the mainland.

In recent years, Hong Kong residents have accused the Communist Party-ruled central government in Beijing of increasingly encroaching on their liberties. The arrests of Hong Kong booksellers and activists have fed these fears.

7 dead, 31 rescued after boats capsize in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—At least seven people died and 31 others were rescued when three ferry boats separately capsized in bad weather Saturday between two central Philippine island provinces, the coast guard said.

Police said at least seven people were missing after the inter-island ferries either turned over or sank in rough seas, wind and rain between Guimaras and Iloilo provinces. A search by the coast guard, police and villagers was underway.

The dead included six women and a man, coast guard spokesman Armand Balilo said, adding that one of the ferry boats, M/B Chichi, was carrying at least 42 passengers. Another boat, M/B Keizha, reportedly had four crewmen on board, while the third ferry, M/B Jenny, carried an unspecified number of people who were rescued and brought on board a coast guard ship, he said.

Video from ABS CBN TV network showed a rescuer carrying a child from a motorboat to an ambulance in an Iloilo pier, where frantic relatives waited.

Forecasters have warned of heavy monsoon rains and thunderstorms amid a brewing storm about 875 kilometers (544 miles) off the country's eastern coast.

Classes and work have been suspended in the Manila metropolis amid heavy rains and flooding, which caused heavy traffic jams Friday in low-lying areas in the capital.

About 20 typhoons and storms batter the Philippines each year, making the archipelago that lies on the Pacific typhoon and earthquake belt one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world.

Snubbed by North Korea, Pompeo hits other Asian turbulence

BANGKOK (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo left Thailand on Saturday with his hopes for resuming nuclear talks with North Korea dashed, while facing an escalating trade war with China and a potentially devastating breakdown in relations between key American allies Japan and South Korea.

After three days in Bangkok that the Trump administration had expected could herald an end to the impasse in North Korea negotiations, Pompeo instead departed without progress on that front as Pyongyang continued to launch ballistic missiles, heightening unease over prospects for a denuclearization deal. Pompeo expressed disappointment that the North had sent neither its foreign minister nor a counterpart for the chief U.S. negotiator to the Thai capital.

"I always look forward to a chance to talk with him," Pompeo said on Friday after it became clear he would not be seeing the North Koreans. "I wish they'd have come here. I think it would have given us an opportunity to have another set of conversations, and I hope it won't be too long before I have a chance to do that."

Yet despite what he and other U.S. officials say are ongoing lower-level contacts with Pyongyang, there is no date or venue set for a resumption in negotiations more than a month after President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jung Un met at the De-Militarized Zone separating the two Koreas. At that time, administration officials said they believed a new round of talks was just weeks away.

Four senior U.S. officials accompanying Pompeo to the annual Association of Southeast Asian Nations regional security forum said North Korea's decision not to attend the conference, which has in the past served as venue for high-level engagement between the two countries, had been a surprise to both the Thai hosts and the other participants. One of those officials said the North's absence was mentioned by every delegation that Pompeo and top U.S. envoy Stephen Biegun met with in Bangkok.

"Unfortunately, the North Koreans missed this opportunity," said the official, who like the others was not authorized to discuss the closed-door discussions publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. The official added that the North's absence "probably hurts their own interests" and that its failure thus far to agree to a new round of negotiations "is not a positive or constructive response by them."

Although Trump himself has downplayed the missile launches, this official said the recent tests—two of which took place during the ASEAN meeting—were unhelpful provocations that had been a "huge mistake" that caused "self-inflicted damage on their own part." The official said that assessment was widely shared by U.S. partners and that the missile tests may have had the unintended consequence of galvanizing sentiment against the North.

Any convergence of opinion on the North may be one of the few positives to emerge on what had been a full and ambitious agenda for Pompeo in Bangkok.

As he arrived on Wednesday, trade talks between the U.S. and China concluded without result in Shanghai, and Trump then announced new tariffs on Chinese imports in a move that angered Beijing shortly after Pompeo met with China's foreign minister. Then on Friday, Japan downgraded South Korea's trade status, prompting a stern response from the South and escalatory steps by both sides that could jeopardize U.S. interests in both allied countries and more broadly in the Asia-Pacific.

As the situation between Seoul and Tokyo deteriorated on Friday, Pompeo hosted his Japanese and South Korean counterparts at an uncomfortable trilateral meeting on the sidelines of the ASEAN conference. Two senior U.S. officials involved in that discussion acknowledged the seriousness of the dispute but said it was encouraging that the meeting took place at all given the developments.

One of the two officials said the dispute would not affect cooperation on North Korea, while the other expressed hope that tensions could be eased without significant U.S. involvement. The second official said there is "no upside to getting in the middle of this" and suggested that a series of unspecified de-escalatory steps could be taken by each country to prevent the dispute from spiraling.

World

US to test new missile as arms treaty with Russia ends

WASHINGTON (AP)—With the scrapping of a landmark arms control agreement Friday, the U.S. announced plans to test a new missile amid growing concerns about emerging threats and new weapons.

U.S. officials said they are no longer hamstrung and could now develop weapons systems previously banned under the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces treaty with Russia, a Cold War-era agreement that both sides repeatedly accused the other of violating. The treaty was also criticized because it did not cover China or missile technology that did not exist a generation ago.

The end of the treaty comes amid rising doubts about whether the two countries will extend an agreement on long-range nuclear weapons scheduled to expire in 2021. President Donald Trump said he has been discussing a new agreement to reduce nuclear weapons with China and Russia.

"And I will tell you China was very, very excited about talking about it and so was Russia," Trump told reporters. "So I think we'll have a deal at some point."

The Trump administration, which gave its six-month notice on Feb. 2 of its pending withdrawal from the INF, had repeatedly said Russia was violating its provisions, an accusation President Barack Obama made as well.

"The United States will not remain party to a treaty that is deliberately violated by Russia," Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in announcing the formal withdrawal, calling a Russian missile system prohibited under the agreement a "direct threat to the United States and our allies."

The end of the INF, which comes as world powers seek to contain the nuclear threat from Iran and North Korea, is another milestone in the deterioration of relations between the U.S and Russia.

"The denunciation of the INF treaty confirms that the U.S. has embarked on destroying all international agreements that do not suit them for one reason or another," the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement. "This leads to the actual dismantling of the existing arms control system."

A senior administration official downplayed the upcoming U.S. weapons test, saying it was not meant to be a provocation. The official, who was not authorized to publicly discuss the test flight, said the U.S. is "years away" from effectively deploying weapons previously banned under the agreement.

But the U.S. might eventually want to base such weapons in Europe as a counterbalance to Russia, or in Asia to counter China.

The central issue with the INF was that both Russia and the U.S. had long accused the other of cheating on the treaty, which banned land-based missiles of ranges between 500 and 5,500 kilometers (310 and 3,410 miles).

The U.S. said the noncompliant missile systems the Russians fielded gave Moscow an advantage over NATO forces in Europe.

The Obama administration in 2014 first publicly accused Moscow of violating the INF by testing a treaty-busting cruise missile, and the Trump administration pressed the accusation. Russia denies it has cheated, and counters with a contention that America's armed drones and missile defense system in Europe are violations.

U.S. military officials have said 95% of China's ballistic and cruise missiles would have violated the treaty.

"Since the strategic environment has changed rapidly since the end of the Cold War, we need to find ways to use arms control to address the rise of China's nuclear arsenal, the increase of Russia's nonstrategic weapons stockpiles, and the emergence of new technologies like hypersonic weapons," said Texas Rep. Michael McCaul, the top Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

AP

This Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2019 file photo, shows the 9M729 land-based cruise missile in Kubinka outside Moscow, Russia.

900 asylum seekers returned to wait in Mexican border city

MATAMOROS, Mexico (AP)—The United States government has sent about 900 mostly Central American and Cuban migrants back to this northern Mexico border city since expanding its controversial "remain in Mexico" program to the easternmost point on the shared border two weeks ago, Mexican authorities say.

They are among nearly 3,000 people with pending U.S. immigration proceedings who have been sent back to wait in Mexico's Tamaulipas state, where the U.S. State Department warns Americans to avoid all travel due to high levels of violence and kidnapping.

Under the program, migrants who turn themselves over to U.S. authorities and, in most cases, request asylum, are returned to Mexico after being given a court date. To pursue their asylum cases they have to wait in Mexico, crossing only for court dates in what is a months-long process.

The program began in January at Tijuana, across from San Diego, and the U.S. government has been expanding it eastward along the border, seeing it as an effective deterrent to the flood of migrants. U.S. authorities began returning migrants at the Tamaulipas city of Nuevo Laredo, on the border with Laredo, Texas, in early July and a few days later added Matamoros, across from Brownsville.

So far more than 20,000 migrants have been returned all along the border to wait in Mexico, Mexican officials say.

On Thursday, some 70 migrants walked sullenly with their heads down across the international bridge into Matamoros. They carried their documents in transparent plastic bags and expressed concerns about how they would wait out the process in a state known for powerful organized crime gangs.

"Donald Trump is just returning everyone," said Emilio Cáceres, a 25-year-old Honduran farmer who said he planned go home rather than wait. Cáceres said he previously was deported from the U.S. and therefore did not envisage a successful asylum application even though he was given a hearing date.

Over 100 more returned Friday.

Earlier in the week, Luis Raxic of Guatemala was returned to Matamoros with his wife and 1½-year-old daughter. He had similar thoughts of giving up and going home because he did not want to expose his daughter to the danger of waiting here.

"One of the agents told us very clearly that they were going to deport us, but only to Mexico and not to our country to save money," Raxic said. "It's a strategy to make us scared and so we'll go back."

The U.S. is sending back groups of 50 to 100 migrants almost daily to Matamoros, the Tamaulipas state immigration office says.

US prosecutors accuse Honduran president of drug conspiracy

MEXICO CITY (AP)—U.S. federal prosecutors have accused the Honduran government of essentially functioning as a narco-state, with the current and former presidents having received campaign contributions from cocaine traffickers in exchange for protection.

A 49-page document filed in New York's southern district on Friday refers to Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernández as a co-conspirator who worked with his brother, Juan Antonio "Tony" Hernández, and former President Porfirio Lobo "to use drug trafficking to help assert power and control in Honduras."

It says that the president and his predecessor "relied on drug proceeds" to fund political campaigns and cites "evidence of high-level political corruption."

The filing comes just months after other U.S. federal court documents showed the current president and some of his closest advisers were among the targets of a Drug Enforcement Administration investigation, casting further doubt on the United States' assertion that Honduras has helped stop the flow of drugs.

The U.S. government has been a staunch supporter of Hernández's government, pouring millions of dollars into security cooperation to stop cocaine headed to the U.S. from South America.

The office of the Honduran president said via Twitter on Saturday that Hernández "categorically denies the false and perverse accusations."

It later issued a separate, lengthier statement suggesting that the allegations in New York were put forward by drug dealers seeking retaliation against the president, who was head of the Central American country's congress in 2012 when the legislature authorized extradition of Honduran nationals to face drug-trafficking charges in the U.S.

Since then, the president's office said, more than 40 Hondurans have been extradited and others have negotiated plea deals with U.S. officials in exchange for information.

"President Hernández has been relentless in the fight against drug traffickers despite predictable reprisals, to the point that one of his 17 siblings, a younger brother, is now being tried in New York," the office said.

Specifically, New York prosecutors allege that the president used $1.5 million in drug trafficking proceeds to help secure power in 2013. That campaign support came via cash bribes to Honduran officials as well as gifts and favors to local politicians, prosecutors argue. Hernández won re-election in 2017, despite term-limits in Honduras and widespread allegations of election fraud.

The filing also alludes to multiple payments of $1 million or more from drug dealers to Lobo.

Lobo's wife was arrested by Honduran officials in 2018 on charges of diverting $700,000 in public funds. His son, Fabio, was sentenced in the U.S. to 24 years in prison in 2017 for drug trafficking.

Lobo was Hernández's mentor and oversaw his rise to power.

The filing forms part of pretrial documents in an upcoming case against Tony Hernández, who was arrested in 2018 in Miami on charges of smuggling thousands of kilograms of cocaine into the U.S.

Focus

AP
United States Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, center left, shakes hands with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He as U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin looks on, left, with Chinese Commerce Minister Zhong Shan, right, after an official photo session at the Xijiao Conference Center in Shanghai on Wednesday, July 31, 2019.

How Trump's latest China tariffs could squeeze US consumers

By JOSH BOAK, ANNE D'INNOCENZIO and JOE McDONALD
AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON (AP)—The latest tariffs President Donald Trump plans to impose on Chinese goods would cost U.S. households an average of $200 a year, some economists estimate, and would start to bite consumers and retailers just as the holiday shopping season begins.

That cost would come on top of the roughly $830 cost imposed per household from Trump's existing tariffs, according to a New York Federal Reserve analysis.

Trump plans to tax $300 billion of Chinese imports at 10% starting in September with the goal of accelerating trade talks with Beijing to favor the United States. The new tariffs would be in addition to 25% tariffs Trump has imposed on $250 billion in Chinese products. Those are mostly industrial goods. By contrast, the new tariffs would target products used by American consumers, like shoes, clothing and cellphones.

By Friday, Trump's new planned tariffs had triggered worries, especially among retailers, about the consequences. Retail stores, many of which have been struggling, would have to make the painful choice of either absorbing the higher costs from the new tariffs or imposing them on price-conscious customers.

Additionally, China has signaled the likelihood of imposing counter-tariffs on U.S. goods, which would hit American exporters. The stock market sold off sharply on Friday, in part over concerns about the effect on corporate profits.

For retailers already feeling pressure, the higher prices would hit hard just as the critically important holiday shopping season was getting under way.

Some companies are considering moving up their delivery of goods before the new tariffs take effect. Isaac Larian, CEO of Los Angeles-based MGA Entertainment, which makes the popular L.O.L. doll, said the company will be accelerating shipments from China to the U.S. ahead of the Sept. 1 deadline—and will pay an extra $300 to $400 more per shipping container to do so.

He envisions having to raise prices 10 percent across his entire toy line.

"A lot of consumers can't afford it, and demand will go down," Larian said.

iPhone sales would also be hurt if consumers respond to the tariffs by keeping their existing devices to avoid higher prices. Wedbush Securities analyst Daniel Ives estimates that Apple will sell 6 million to 8 million fewer iPhones in the U.S. if it includes the tariff in the sale price.

Peter Bragdon, executive vice president at Columbia Sportswear, said his company had been diversifying away from China and now makes products in more than 20 countries. He said he thinks companies like Columbia Sportswear will fare better than the smaller outdoor rivals.

"The larger companies that have the experience are going to be able to weather really bad public policy," he said.

Washington and Beijing are locked in a battle over complaints that China steals or pressures companies to hand over technology. The Trump administration worries that American industrial leadership might be threatened by Chinese plans for government-led creation of global competitors in robotics and other technologies. Europe and Japan echo U.S. complaints that those plans violate Beijing's market-opening commitments.

Companies were already shifting to suppliers outside of China in countries such as Vietnam to avoid the existing tariffs on $250 billion worth of Chinese imports. But plenty of clothing and footwear companies are still vulnerable, and the president's announcement means that all Chinese imports might be taxed.

In 2018, 42% of all U.S. sold apparel was made in China, according to the American Apparel & Footwear Association, a trade group. That number is 69% for footwear.

"This creates a cash crunch, a lot of confusion and uncertainty," said Steve Lamar, executive vice president of the trade group. "It couldn't come at a worse time."

The Trump administration has publicly denied that consumers would be significantly harmed by the tariffs.

"Any consumer impact is very, very small," Larry Kudlow, director of the National Economic Council, told reporters Friday.

But based on estimates from Oxford Economics, the planned tariffs would cost $200 per household. This would be in addition to the estimated $831 per household cost from the existing tariffs.

Taken together, the tariffs would more than wipe out the savings a middle-class household received from Trump's 2017 income tax cuts. The average tax filer earning between $50,000 and $75,000 paid $841 less in taxes last year, according to Congress' Joint Committee on Taxation.

Many economists forecast that the proposed tariffs would shave about 0.1% off economic growth but that the real risk is a further escalation and side effects that could be devastating.

Douglas Porter, chief economist at BMO Capital Markets, likened the president's actions to the errors that led to destruction in World War I.

He said of World War I: "Leaders were relentlessly overconfident on the prospects of victory, fully convinced that any war would be brief, incompetent in planning and execution, and miscalculated economic damage. Accordingly, the war dragged on for over four years at terrible, terrible costs. See any parallels?"

Answering his own question, Porter noted that Trump has declared that trade wars are "good" and "easy to win."

On Friday, China threatened retaliation in ways that could magnify the potential damage to both of the world's two biggest economies. Stocks fell around the globe as investors adjusted to these risks.

Beijing accused Trump of violating his June agreement with President Xi Jinping to revive negotiations aimed at ending a costly fight over Beijing's trade surplus and technological ambitions. China's new U.N. Ambassador Zhang Jun suggested that the new tariffs could halt negotiations that were expected to resume next month.

Later, outside the White House, Trump told reporters that he thinks Xi wants to make a deal but that "frankly, he's not moving fast enough."

"China has to do a lot of things to turn it around," Trump said. The tariff increase "goes on Sept. 1, and frankly, if they don't do them, I can always increase it very substantially."

Health & Wellness

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Crunches won't give you abs and other fitness myths you need to stop buying into

By RASHA ALI
TNS

Even though we know fad diets and fitness trends come and go, it's hard not to get swept up in the idea that they could be true, especially when there are so many crazes hitting you from every which way.

One day, protein shakes are the answer to everything. The next, there's a blogger telling us a mere 10 squats a day will give us better butts.

Rather than rely on wishful thinking, we asked dietitians and trainers to weigh in on five common fitness beliefs.

Spoiler alert: They're mostly myths.

1 You need a protein shake to build muscle

Protein shakes are touted as a be-all-end-all solution. They're advertised as meal replacements and as a way to grow and maintain lean muscle.

Turns out, you don't actually need to take protein supplements if you're getting adequate protein from food. Kelli McGrane, registered dietitian for Lose It!, says that although protein shakes can be convenient, you have to be cautious about which ones you pick because they could have added sugars and can cause bloating.

"There are many excellent high-protein foods that can help you build muscle, such as plain Greek yogurt, chicken, lean beef, fish, eggs and tofu," McGrane says. "Plus, in addition to providing protein, these foods also supply additional vitamins and minerals that are important for metabolism and cell growth."

2 Ab workouts will give you abs

If you're after that chiseled stomach, doing 100 crunches a day won't help you get there any faster.

"Abs are made through nutrition," Austin Dotson, personal trainer, says. "You can do billions of abs exercises, but if you do not consume the proper diet, Jesus will come back before your abs do."

You have to lose body fat to see your abs. To do that, you have to mix proper nutrition with both cardio exercises (like running on a treadmill, jump rope or high-intensity interval training) and weight training.

In short, you can't crunch your way to abs.

3 Cardio is the only way to lose weight

Yes, cardio can help you shed some pounds, but it's not the only way to do so. In fact, you don't have to do any cardio at all if you only want to lose weight.

It all comes down to the calories you're consuming, says James Smith, personal trainer and owner of James Smith Academy: "Put it this way, Ross Edgley swam around the U.K. for five months, he swam 12 hours a day and came back 5 kilograms heavier. Alternatively, a housewife could manage her intake of calories and lose 5 kilograms in five months without going to the gym or doing any cardio."

Although cardio can be effective in helping burn fat, make sure you're not doing too much of it, Dotson added.

"We need muscle to burn fat, so too much cardio is the fastest way to plateau and actually retain more fat," he says. "You need to switch up your methods of cardio and add some type of strength/resistance training in your regimen."

4 Squats are the most effective butt-building exercise

Yes, squats can help you grow your gluteus muscles, but there are other exercises that are better suited for targeting that area.

Celebrity trainer Eric Fleishman says exercises like walking lunges and fire hydrants can transform your glutes faster than squats. They're less dangerous, too.

To add some volume to your backside, make sure you're focusing on all parts of the butt, Dotson says.

"You have to focus on all areas of the glutes: Maximus, medius, minimus. So squats just won't do the trick; you need to add in hip abduction, and abductors as well as glute bridges, lunges and dead lifts," he says.

You also have to eat enough to grow your butt, Dotson says. Make sure you're getting enough carbs and protein for those muscle gains.

5 You can't turn fat into muscle

Fat and muscle are two different things, and you can't magically transform one into the other. However, lifting weights will help you build muscle and lose fat at the same time.

"Lifting weights can promote muscle growth, which in turn can increase your metabolism," McGrane says. "This metabolism boost, in addition to cardio workouts and a healthy diet, can help you burn more fat."

You can do this by adding cardio and resistance training into your gym routine. Make sure to strike a balance, as too much cardio can end up burning your lean muscle, Dotson says.

Life & Style

R. Kelly pleads not guilty to sexually abusing women, girls

NEW YORK (AP)—Embattled R&B singer R. Kelly pleaded not guilty Friday to federal charges he sexually abused women and girls who attended his concerts as his lawyers continued to label the alleged victims disgruntled "groupies."

A sullen-looking Kelly appeared in a Brooklyn courtroom where a magistrate judge also denied his request for bail, agreeing with prosecutors that he's a flight risk and danger to public safety. His defense attorneys, who argued he should be released so he could better fight the charges, said they would appeal the ruling.

Kelly, whose full name is Robert Kelly, is accused of using his fame to recruit young women and girls into illegal sexual activity. Prosecutors say he isolated them from friends and family and demanded they call him "Daddy."

On Friday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Geddes argued against bail by saying Kelly and his inner circle had a history of paying off and intimidating potential witnesses in past sexual misconduct cases.

Geddes said witnesses were told "they had the option of choosing his side or the other side."

If freed, she said, "There's a serious risk he'll attempt to obstruct justice."

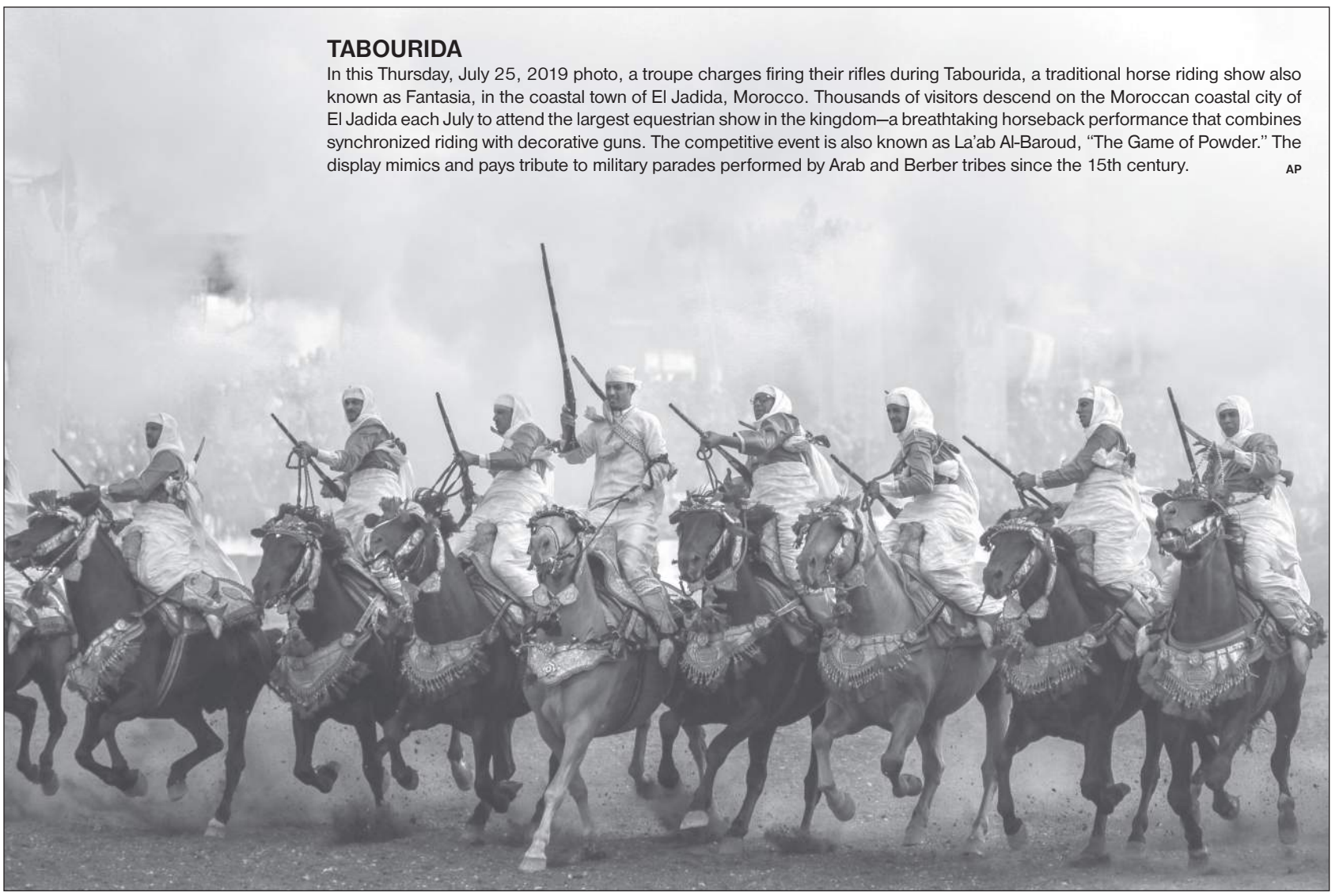
The New York City hearing followed Kelly's arrest last month in a separate Chicago case accusing him of engaging in child pornography. He was to be returned to Chicago, where he remains jailed with a decision still pending on where he could face trial.

Kelly, 52, is charged in New York with exploiting five victims, identified only as "Jane Does." According to court papers, they include one he met while she was a radio station intern in about 2004 and another at one of his concerts in 2015.

Prosecutors allege Kelly sometimes arranged for some victims to meet him on the road for illegal sex. He had one victim travel in 2017 to a show on Long Island, New York, where he had unprotected sex with her without telling her "he had contracted an infectious venereal disease," in violation of New York law, they say.

TABOURIDA

In this Thursday, July 25, 2019 photo, a troupe charges firing their rifles during Tabourida, a traditional horse riding show also known as Fantasia, in the coastal town of El Jadida, Morocco. Thousands of visitors descend on the Moroccan coastal city of El Jadida each July to attend the largest equestrian show in the kingdom—a breathtaking horseback performance that combines synchronized riding with decorative guns. The competitive event is also known as La'ab Al-Baroud, "The Game of Powder." The display mimics and pays tribute to military parades performed by Arab and Berber tribes since the 15th century. AP



Kevin Spacey reads poem about forsaken boxer at Rome museum

MILAN (AP)—Actor Kevin Spacey read a poem about a worn-out and dejected boxer during an unexpected performance at a Rome museum Friday night, weeks after a criminal sexual misconduct case against him collapsed in Massachusetts.

Spacey's appearance at the National Roman Museum was not publicly announced in advance. The museum had posted a cryptic notice on its website saying a two-time Oscar winner would be reading works by Italian poet Gabriele Tinti during a rare evening event -- but didn't name the person.

During the reading, Spacey stood next to an ancient Greek bronze statue of a battered fighter while reciting Tinti's "The Boxer." The poem is about a fighter left bleeding at ringside, cast aside despite previous glory

Anyone familiar with the rapid downward course of the former "House of Cards" actor's career after sexual misconduct allegations were made against him in 2017 would have an easy time finding meaning between the lines.

Video clips published in Italian media and by U.S. news site The Daily Beast show Spacey dramatically intoning the verses, including one reading: "The more you are wounded, the greater you are. And the more empty you are. They used me for their entertainment, fed on shoddy stuff. Life was over in a moment."

Barbie Latza Nadeau, The Daily Beast's Rome correspondent, said four journalists were invited to the reading and promised sit-down interviews with Spacey that did not materialize.

"Everyone in the tiny room was left speechless by Spacey's unapologetic performance. By the time it was over, a bigger crowd had gathered outside, and he read the whole poem again to them," Latza Nadeau wrote.

She said the most poignant parts of the reading came near the end, when he read the lines "You have to suck the heart of a hero as long as it beats" and "I shook the country, made the arenas vibrate, tore my opponents to shreds. I lit up the darkness, collected insults, compelled applause. Not everyone knew how to do this."

Streaming music may make cases like Katy Perry's more common

LOS ANGELES (AP)—To show that Katy Perry and the team that wrote her 2013 hit "Dark Horse" may have heard his song and stole from it, Christian rapper Marcus Gray's primary evidence was that his 2009 song, "Joyful Noise" had plays in the millions on YouTube and Spotify.

Plaintiffs in copyright cases like Gray, who won a $2.78 million victory over Perry and her co-writers on Thursday, must prove that the artist who stole from them had a reasonable opportunity to hear a song that was widely disseminated, a principle lawyers simply refer to as "access."

But does access have any meaning in a streaming era when almost everyone has access to almost everything?

The question, as other issues at Perry's high-profile trial did, suggested that technology may be outpacing copyright law, and that more David vs. Goliath victories for relatively obscure artists like Gray over superstars like Perry may be the result.

"The law around it is a two-pronged test, access and substantial similarity," Michael Kelber, a Chicago attorney who specializes in intellectual property and technology, told The Associated Press on Friday. "The fact that the access prong is so much easier to show, that can be some potent evidence for a jury."

Kelber said the Perry decision may show that "the floodgates are starting to open on these cases."

"It's not hard to get thousands of watches and likes," he said.

Perry's attorney Christine Lepera said after the decision that Gray's team had shown "no evidence of access" as she vowed to vigorously fight the verdict.

Freed from Swedish jail, rapper A$AP Rocky lands in US

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nearly a month after he was arrested in Sweden, rapper A$AP Rocky returned to the United States as the verdict in an assault case against him and two other Americans looms.

Los Angeles television stations reported the 30-year-old artist was among a group of people shown emerging from a private airplane at Los Angeles International Airport in footage broadcast late Friday night. The rapper, whose real name is Rakim Mayers, had flown out of Stockholm Arlanda Airport on Friday, the same day the trio learned they would be released while judges mull a verdict that's expected Aug. 14.

Along with David Rispers Jr. and Bladimir Corniel, the rapper is accused of beating 19-year-old Mustafa Jafari on June 30 outside a fast-food restaurant in central Stockholm. Mayers, who had been jailed since his July 3 arrest, pleaded not guilty at the start of the three-day trial Tuesday.

The case has attracted the attention of prominent figures, from Justin Bieber to President Donald Trump. Trump, who caused a stir in U.S.-Swedish diplomatic relations after publicly offering support to the Grammy-nominated artist, celebrated the temporary release.

"It was a Rocky Week, get home ASAP A$AP!" the U.S. president said in a tweet.

Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven heard an appeal from Trump in July, but said he couldn't interfere in a legal case.

Official: Video shows YouTube 'King of Random' fatal crash

ST. GEORGE, Utah (AP)—A Utah sheriff's official says the creator of the YouTube channel "King of Random" shot video that showed his fatal paragliding crash and that it indicates the craft crashed quickly after its chute collapsed.

Washington County sheriff's officials are investigating the death Monday of 38-year-old Jonathan Grant Thompson, whose videos of experiments and hands-on tips have been watched over a billion times.

Sheriff's Lt. David Crouse told The Associated Press on Saturday that it appears a change of wind caused the paraglider's chute to collapse and that Thompson tried to deploy a reserve chute but didn't have time before plunging about 100 feet (30 meters) to the ground.

Crouse said Thompson never regained consciousness after crashing and that the video belongs to Thompson's family and won't be released by authorities.

Clintons, Mariah Carey turn out for Barbra Streisand concert

NEW YORK (AP)—Barbra Streisand's return to New York City's Madison Square Garden for the first time in 13 years attracted figures from pop superstar Mariah Carey to Bill and Hillary Clinton for a concert that turned political.

Streisand

The iconic singer performed a show-stopping concert Saturday night, receiving standing ovations from fans including Carey, who showed up to her seat as Streisand ended her first song of the night.

Former New York City Mayor David Dinkins, U.S. Rep. Jerry Nadler and Rev. Al Sharpton also attended the show, where Streisand was backed by an orchestra with more than a dozen talented musicians.

In characteristic fashion, Streisand brought politics into the concert, warning Republicans in the audience to cover their ears before launching into a remixed version of "Send in the Clowns" that took jabs at President Donald Trump.

Streisand had covered the Stephen Sondheim song for "The Broadway Album" in 1985.

"Maybe he's poor, till he reveals his returns who can be sure, who is this clown," she sang as the audience erupted in applause. "Something's amiss, I don't approve, now that's he's running the free world where can we move, maybe a town, who is this clown?"

After the song, a photo of the White House—with circus tent on top of it—appeared on the screen, followed by Trump in clown makeup. An altered version of his Time magazine 2016 Person of the Year cover showed him with a red nose under the words "clown of the year."

Ariana Grande returns to acting roots in "Kidding"

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Ariana Grande returns to her acting roots with an appearance in Jim Carrey's series "Kidding."

The Grammy-winning singer with the big vocal range guests in season two of the Showtime series that returns on Nov. 3. And yes, she sings.

Carrey told a TV critics gathering on Friday that Grande was game to be silly and have fun. Carrey plays children's TV host Mr. Pickles who has a difficult family life off-screen.

Carrey joked that he's sure Grande was nervous singing with him. He calls Grande "a singular artist" whose vocal ability is like magic while he says he croaked out his performance.

In an Instagram post, Grande called it "the most special experience of my life." She said she's been a fan of Carrey since childhood.

Grande began her career as an actress, appearing on Broadway in the musical "13" and two Nickelodeon TV series.

Duane 'Dog' Chapman urges burglary suspect to surrender

EDGEWATER, Colo. (AP)—Reality TV star Duane "Dog" Chapman is calling on the person who broke into a Colorado business he owns and stole show merchandise and items belonging to his late wife to turn himself in.

Chapman told reporters in the Denver suburb of Edgewater on Friday that he'll ask police not to press charges if the person surrenders in the next 48 hours.

Chapman spoke outside his damaged storefront as police released surveillance video of a man suspected in Monday night's burglary.

Chapman said the stolen items included the bounty hunting gear of his late wife, Beth Chapman, who died in June after battling cancer. But the star of the "Dog the Bounty Hunter" franchise said he's leaving the case to police.

"The guy has 48 hours to call me and ask for forgiveness," Chapman said.

Chapman's business is on a busy street that borders Denver.

Police Chief John Mackey said the suspect had a large backpack, was in the store for a short amount of time and left without anything in his hands. Police believe some of the merchandise may already be being sold on online.

A passerby discovered a broken glass door early Tuesday at the business. Police Cpl. Bob Brink said earlier Friday that officers boarded the door after they couldn't reach anyone affiliated with the business, called "Free as a Bird Bail Bond."

Someone with the firm reported the burglary on Thursday, Brink said. The business is not open to the public.

Employees were still putting together an inventory of what was taken. Inside the store, some racks for hoodies and T-shirts were empty. A computer and cash register were dumped in a pile behind a front counter, and a "Dog the Bounty Hunter" mug was smashed in a nearby case holding mugs and books.

As Chapman spoke on a narrow sidewalk outside the store, some passing motorists yelled out their support. Chapman said he cried after touring the store and that the one thing he wants back the most is a Taser used by Beth Chapman.

LGBT pride parade in Amsterdam features boats as floats

AMSTERDAM (AP)—Tens of thousands of spectators are lining an Amsterdam canal to watch a parade of decorated boats during the Dutch capital's LGBT pride festival.

People take part in the Amsterdam Pride Parade, in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Saturday, Aug. 3, 2019. AP

Organizers said 80 boats officially took part in the canal parade on Saturday, including ones representing Dutch police, the military and an undertakers' organization.

Ahead of next years' summer Olympics in Japan, a vessel representing Tokyo's LGBT community participated, too.

The annual parade is the highlight of Pride Amsterdam, which ends Sunday. The theme of this year's nine-day festival was "Remember the past, create the future."

Like pride events around the world this summer, the Amsterdam event came 50 years after a police raid of a gay bar in New York, the Stonewall Inn, set off riots and catalyzed the modern gay rights movement.

Conference attendee wants to stay out of the picture

DEAR ABBY: I'm going to a professional conference, which has the usual presentations, vendors and activities. Every time I go, there's always a photographer. It's annoying. When a photographer sneaks up to take photos, it distracts the presenter. Then the camera is usually swung around to shoot the audience.

I have been photographed many times while I was browsing through the vendors. I have never given my permission to have any of them published. The photos appear on state or national organization websites for viewing by association members (not the general public). What are my rights? Am I the only one who is camera shy?

TEACHER ON THE WEST COAST

DEAR TEACHER: You are not the only person who dislikes having their picture taken—particularly without permission. Many others also do. However, if the photographer has been hired by the association sponsoring the event, I don't think you have any choice about being photographed. You might be out of camera range if you sit toward the back of the audience. Or, do what some celebrities do—wear dark glasses.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Three months ago, I went out on three dates with "Kevin." Then he sent me a text saying he didn't feel I could offer him the relationship he is looking for, but he wants to remain friends because he has fun with me. I agreed, and we've gotten together many times since and communicate often.

I am not physically attracted to him, but I sense he is attracted to me, and it makes me uncomfortable. Since we agreed to be friends, he has invited me over for "movie and cuddle night," put his arm around me, asked to kiss me and booked a hotel room with only one bed and no sofa. It's like I am his placeholder until he finds a real girlfriend, and he wants to spend time with me only out of boredom and loneliness. I don't know how to break things off nicely.

NOT INTERESTED IN THE WEST

DEAR NOT INTERESTED: I think you have Kevin pegged correctly. Here's how to distance yourself "nicely." Tell him you like him very much. But as a platonic friend only. Explain that kissing, cuddling and sharing a bed are things you do with a boyfriend, and it's time for both of you to move on. Then do it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I added my 37-year-old son to my insurance policy because it would cost him almost double if he went on his own. The problem is, I struggle every month getting him to send me the money so I can pay the premium. He promises to send it but never does. What should I do?

CAN'T AFFORD IT IN THE SOUTH

DEAR CAN'T: Give your irresponsible son a date by which you expect to have the money each month for his share of the premium. Tell him that if the money is not there when it's time for you to send the payment that you will drop him from your insurance. Make sure he understands that this is not an idle threat, and if he doesn't follow through, take him off the policy.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

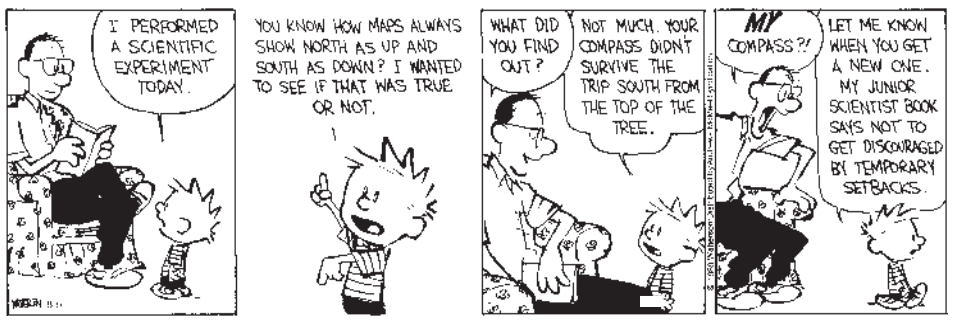
By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I PERFORMED A SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT TODAY.
YOU KNOW HOW MAPS ALWAYS SHOW NORTH AS UP AND SOUTH AS DOWN? I WANTED TO SEE IF THAT WAS TRUE OR NOT.
WHAT DID YOU FIND OUT?
NOT MUCH. YOUR COMPASS DIDN'T SURVIVE THE TRIP SOUTH FROM THE TOP OF THE TREE.
MY COMPASS?!
LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU GET A NEW ONE. MY JUNIOR SCIENTIST BOOK SAYS NOT TO GET DISCOURAGED BY TEMPORARY SETBACKS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

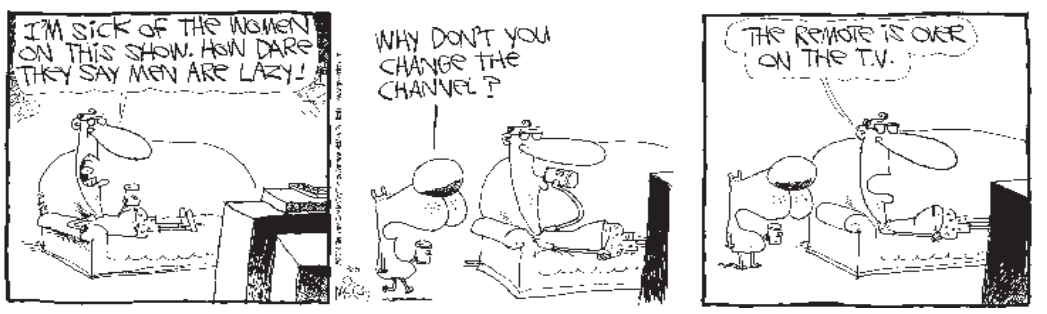
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT'S UP?
OH, IT'S THIS NEW WRITING GIG.
I'M STUMPED ON WHAT TO WRITE ABOUT.
IT NEEDS TO BE INSIGHTFUL AND ENTERTAINING AND INFORMATIVE AND...
FINISHED ON TIME?
THAT'S THE PART THAT'S REALLY TRIPPING ME UP.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

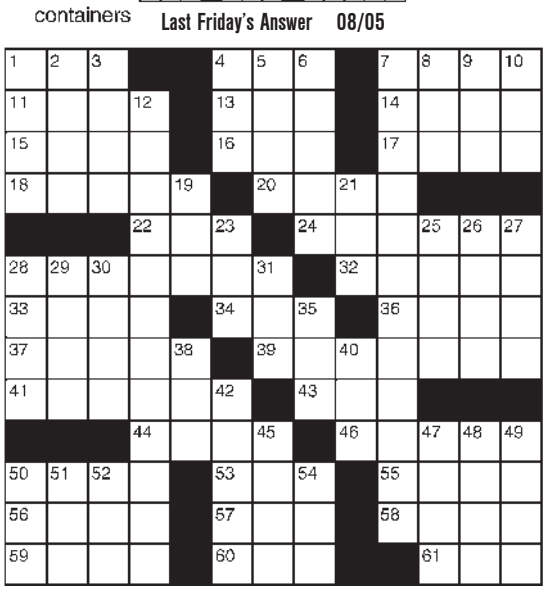
ACROSS
1 NBC weekend show
4 Request
7 "Brandenburg Concertos" composer
11 Canadian flag emblem
13 Fluffy scarf
14 Ranch measure
15 Cupid's specialty
16 Recede
17 Bok — (stir-fry veggie)
18 Bust
20 Drench
22 Scot's denial
24 Failed big-time
28 Hitchcock thriller
32 Battery part
33 "Believe — not!"
34 Dog's warning
36 1982 sci-fi film
37 Beauty parlor
39 Pickle containers
41 Totally wrong
43 Royal insomnia cause
44 Emulated Michael Phelps
46 Perfectly timed
50 Jazz style
53 Ballot marks
55 Hit on the noggin
56 Director Kazan
57 — Jima
58 Diminutive suffix
59 Camp shelter
60 Sound from a hot wok
61 Dawn goddess

DOWN
1 Thick chunk
2 Jules Verne captain
3 Cambodia neighbor
4 Honest politician
5 Weeps
6 Skewered entree
7 Building's delivery area, at times
8 Berliner's cry
9 — -Magnon
10 "Psst!"
12 Prime vantage point in a theater
19 — tai
21 In the style of
23 Silly Putty container
25 Had on
26 Teen fave
27 Sawbucks
28 Travel permit
29 And others (Lat.)
30 Bakery buy
31 Sphere
35 Knock
38 Up-to-date
40 Old Oldsmobile
42 Urban transports
45 Kitten calls
47 Doves' home
48 "Do — others ..."
49 Stretches (out)
50 Lustrous black
51 — -de-France
52 Sportscaster Scully
54 "Mayday!"

Solution time: 26 mins.

J	A	P	A	N		P	A	T		I	S	M
A	M	I	N	O		I	M	O		H	A	I
M	A	G	N	A		C	O	W	B	E	L	L
		T	A	H	I	N	I		E	A	S	E
E	P	A		S	H	I		A	H	H	A	Y
S	H	I	P		E	C	O	L	E			
E	I	L	E	E	N		S	I	T	C	O	M
			A	M	E	B	A		S	A	V	E
T	E	M	P	O		A	G	E		T	A	X
O	R	E	O			L	E	A	D	S		
D	O	G	D	A	Y	S		T	A	C	E	T
O	D	A		N	R	A		A	T	A	L	E
S	E	N		T	O	M		T	E	N	S	E

Last Friday's Answer 08/05



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lolo Jones, 37; Jesse Williams, 38; Jonathan Silverman, 53; Maureen McCormick, 63.

Happy Birthday: Look for the good in others, and focus on the bright side of life. Set the tone instead of letting others bring you down. Engage in activities you enjoy, and avoid making purchases you can't afford, hoping it will make you happy. Turn this into a thoughtful, meaningful year that offers hope and future prospects. Lay the foundation for better days ahead. Your numbers are 2, 10, 13, 22, 29, 34, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Don't worry so much about what others are doing. Consider what you need to do, and get busy working toward your goal. Personal improvement will help you bypass emotional interference from someone critical or overbearing. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Make a change because it's the right thing to do. Learn from mistakes, and base what you do and say on how it will affect others. Getting along will ease stress and help you get what you want. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Spend more time making improvements at home or on essential relationships. Truth, honesty and getting along with others will make the difference between a happy home environment and one that is cluttered with misunderstandings. Choose peace and love over chaos. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Look at all sides of a situation before you make a move. Concentrate on the changes you can make that will be beneficial to whatever situation you face. Simple adjustments are favored over insisting on doing things your way. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Personal growth and physical improvements will go hand in hand. Do what makes you feel good about who you are, what you accomplish and how you give back. Friends and family will help you recognize what's best for you. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Learn through experience. Participate in events that will challenge you and give you alternative suggestions that can change your course of action. Look for the positive, but don't be fooled by someone's exaggerated point of view or tempting offer. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Avoid emotional confrontations. Take your responsibilities seriously, and tidy up loose ends before you move on to preferred pastimes. Don't let money, health or a legal matter disrupt your day. Address issues directly and personally. A positive attitude will promote success. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Stick to what you know and do best. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something you know isn't in your best interest. A mistake will take a long time to fix. Slow down and make calculated choices. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* High energy, coupled with solid planning, will ensure your success. If someone is inconsistent or unreliable, take care of matters on your own. Physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle will improve your chance to advance. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Think twice before you say something that could disrupt your relationship with someone substantial in your everyday routine. Getting along will be half the battle, and doing what's right will be the other half. Practice what you preach. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Look for an opportunity, and you will find one. A partnership looks inviting, and contracts and agreements can be formulated and put into play. Romance is on the rise and will improve your attitude as well as your personal living arrangements. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Keep an open mind, and use insight and originality to come up with workable solutions to any problem that arises. You don't have to follow the crowd or someone who is asking for too much. Do your own thing. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are charismatic, playful and assertive. You are changeable and sensitive.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8			6		4		
2	7			4			9	3
6		4				2		1
4			9		8			
	1			6			7	
			5		7			9
9		6				3		8
7	4			8			1	5
	2		3				6	

Difficulty Level ★ 8/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

5	8	3	1	4	7	9	2	6
9	7	6	5	2	3	1	8	4
4	2	1	6	9	8	3	5	7
3	1	9	7	5	4	2	6	8
8	4	5	2	6	1	7	3	9
7	6	2	8	3	9	5	4	1
1	9	4	3	8	5	6	7	2
2	3	7	4	1	6	8	9	5
6	5	8	9	7	2	4	1	3

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/1

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SHAREHOLDERS Solution: 8 letters

D	C	O	M	M	O	N	P	U	R	C	H	A	S	E
Y	I	L	C	I	L	B	U	P	T	I	T	L	E	C
R	B	A	A	S	R	E	N	T	R	A	P	S	L	O
A	O	S	P	S	H	A	R	E	S	I	N	D	U	M
L	A	E	I	A	S	S	E	T	S	O	C	N	R	P
A	R	E	T	O	M	E	O	A	I	T	O	E	E	A
S	D	T	A	B	M	C	G	T	N	I	Ⓢ	D	G	N
S	E	N	L	O	K	E	A	E	T	O	Ⓔ	I	I	Y
E	R	A	A	S	S	Z	M	A	L	J	Ⓛ	V	S	R
N	R	R	W	S	I	E	D	U	P	I	Ⓛ	I	T	A
I	E	A	S	N	E	I	T	V	P	P	V	D	E	M
S	F	U	A	R	U	I	O	O	A	O	O	I	R	I
U	E	G	G	Q	O	R	I	T	V	L	W	I	R	R
B	R	A	I	N	S	T	O	R	M	Y	U	E	N	P
O	P	L	S	T	O	C	K	H	O	L	D	E	R	T

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Agreement, Appoint, Assets, Board, Boss, Brainstorm, Business, Capital, Class, Common, Company, Dividends, Guarantees, Laws, Liquidation, Memo, Organizations, Paid, Partners, Power, Preferred, Price, Primary, Privileges, Public, Purchase, Register, Resolutions, Rules, Salary, Sell, Shares, Stockholder, Stocks, Title, Value, Votes

Last Friday's Answer: Wedding

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Graphic Designer/Artist – Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts. Minimum of 1 yr. experience as Graphic Designer/Artist.

Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing, LLC.
Ground Floor, Afetna Building, San Antonio Village, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.# 235-1680

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Accounting Clerk - At least 1 yr. work experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Software.

Submit Applications To:
PAM PACIFIC ENTERPRISES CORP.
DBA Pena House Boutique and Salon
Ground Floor, Sablan Building, Chalan Kanoa
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.# 670-235-7270

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

3 Aircon Technician - $8.06/hr
1 Auto Mechanic - $8.02/hr

For more information,
please call (670) 287-3247
or email wjf0217@gmail.com
T & G AIR CONDITIONING SERVICES
Contact person: Wilfredo Francisco

APEX BUILDERS, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE (1) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN- $8.84to 9.33 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes. Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations. Operate 10-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents. Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience in bookkeeping, accounting or auditing clerk;
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter, accounting software such as QuickBooks and/or PeachTree.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(5) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN - $8.84 to 14.42 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes, Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations. Operate 10-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents. Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience in bookkeeping, accounting or auditing clerk; &
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter, accounting software such as QuickBooks and/or PeachTree.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

06 Electricians -$8.78-8.78 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. May install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems. Plan layout and installation of electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, based on job specifications and local codes. Connect wires to circuit breakers, transformers, or other components. Test electrical systems or continuity of circuits in electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, using testing devices, such as ohmmeters, voltmeters, or oscilloscopes, to ensure compatibility and safety of system. Use a variety of tools or equipment, such as power construction equipment, measuring devices, power tools, and testing equipment, such as oscilloscopes, ammeters, or test lamps. Inspect electrical systems, equipment, or components to identify hazards, defects, or the need for adjustment or repair, and to ensure compliance with codes.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN USING MEASURING DEVICES, POWER TOOLS AND TESTING EQUIPMENT SUCH AS OHMMETERS, VOLTMETERS, OSCILLOSCOPES, AMMETERS, OR TEST LAMPS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) H. E. Mechanics $8.14 to $9.00 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul mobile mechanical, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, and conveyors, used in construction, logging, and surface mining. Repair and replace damaged or worn parts. Test mechanical products and equipment after repair or assembly to ensure proper performance and compliance with manufacturers' specifications. Operate and inspect machines or heavy equipment to diagnose defects. Read and understand operating manuals, blueprints, and technical drawings. Dismantle and reassemble heavy equipment using hoists and hand tools.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN HOIST, HAND TOOLS AND TESTERS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) Maintenance Technicians $8.11 to $8.50 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; boiler making; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs. Inspect, operate, or test machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Dismantle machines, equipment, or devices to access and remove defective parts, using hoists, cranes, hand tools, or power tools. Perform routine maintenance, such as inspecting drives, motors, or belts, checking fluid levels, replacing filters, or doing other preventive maintenance actions. Diagnose mechanical problems and determine how to correct them, checking blueprints, repair manuals, or parts catalogs, as necessary.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN USING HAND AND POWER TOOLS SUCH AS CORDLESS POWER DRILLS, POWER CIRCULAR SAWS AND PULLERS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays, or more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) Truck Driver 8.00 to 8.35 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license. Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order. Follow appropriate safety procedures for transporting dangerous goods. Inspect loads to ensure that cargo is secure. Maintain logs of working hours or of vehicle service or repair status, following applicable state and federal regulations. Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain, binders, or covers. Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license. Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order. Follow appropriate safety procedures for transporting dangerous goods. Inspect loads to ensure that cargo is secure. Maintain logs of working hours or of vehicle service or repair status, following applicable state and federal regulations. Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain, binders, or covers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate
- At least 12 months experience
- Should possess a CNMI, Driver's License

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GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

KOREA TOURISM INC JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) TRAVEL AGENT
JOB DUTIES
Plan and sell transportation and accommodations for travel agency customers, determine destination modes of transportation, travel dates, costs and accommodations required, may also described plan and arrange itineraries and sell tour packages, may assist in resolving clients travel problems.

REQUIREMENTS:
- Must be high school graduate
- With one-year work experience as travel agent
- With computer skills required
- Korean Speaking required

Salary: 14.84/hr
This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position

(1) TOUR GUIDE
JOB DUTIES
Describe tour points of interest to group members, and respond to questions, escort individuals, or groups to cruises, sightseeing tours or thru places of interest such as individual establishments, public buildings, and art galleries, conduct education activities for school for school children, monitor visitors activities, to ensure compliance with establishment or tour regulations and safety practices, provide directions and other pertinent information to visitors.

REQUIREMENTS:
- Must be high school graduate
- With at least 6 months' work experience as tour guide
- With customer service-oriented person
- With good moral character
- Able to read and speak in Korean language

Salary: 9.23/hr

This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position

Interested Applicants can email their resume to susupe302@gmail.com
Or fax to 233-3005 or can call office number 233-3001 for more information
From Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

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Wanted Floral Arrangements Retail Purchaser/Retailer

- Must be able to show experience selecting, purchasing and arranging shipment of fine ceramics from SE Asia
- Must be able to grow, arrange, and care for flowers and living plants
- Must have 5+ years experience in the retail business.
- Must be fluent in Vietnamese, and English with some familiarity with Thai.
- ONLY US residents are eligible to apply.

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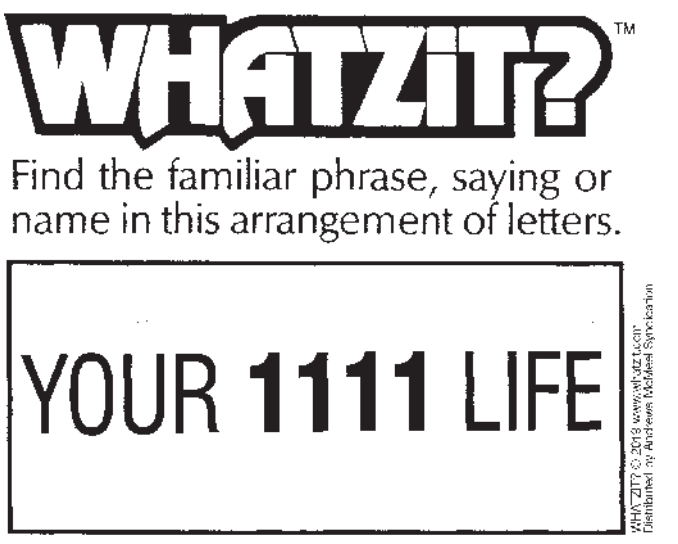
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Astros toss combined no-hitter vs Mariners

HOUSTON (AP) — Aaron Sanchez looked like a reinvented pitcher in his Houston debut, throwing six stellar innings to start the Astros on a combined no-hitter Saturday night in their 9-0 victory over the Seattle Mariners.

Sanchez was an All-Star in 2016 and led the American League in ERA, but he's struggled badly this season and had lost 13 straight decisions to lead the majors with 14 losses. Three days after he was acquired from Toronto at the trade deadline, the 27-year-old right-hander teamed with Will Harris, Joe Biagini and Chris Devenski to shut down Seattle.

It was the second time in less than a month the last-place Mariners were no-hit by multiple pitchers. The Los Angeles Angels used two pitchers in a combined no-hitter July 12 against Seattle on a night when they honored late left-hander Tyler Skaggs by all wearing his No. 45 in their first home game since his death.

Sanchez (4-14) struck out six, walked two and hit a batter in his first victory since April 27 for Toronto.

Seattle's Marco Gonzales (12-9) allowed four runs in five innings.

AP

Houston Astros' Jose Altuve attempts to lay down a bunt during the first inning of the team's baseball game against the Seattle Mariners, Saturday, Aug. 3, 2019, in Houston.

Twins 11, Royals 3

In Minneapolis, Nelson Cruz hit three home runs in a game for the second time in 10 days, powering AL Central-leading Minnesota to the victory.

A day after he homered, doubled twice and drove in five runs, Cruz again had five RBIs.

Cruz hit a two-run homer in the first inning, a solo drive in the second and a two-run homer in the sixth. He didn't get a chance at a record-tying fourth home run — he was left on deck when Jorge Polanco grounded out to end the eighth.

Polanco and C.J. Cron and Jorge Polanco also homered for the Twins, who lead Cleveland by three games.

Minnesota's Kyle Gibson (11-4) allowed two earned runs in 6 2/3 innings.

Yankees 9, Red Sox 2, Game 1
Yankees 6, Red Sox 4, Game 2

In New York, DJ LeMahieu hit a pair of home runs off Chris Sale in the opener of the Yankees' doubleheader sweep, and Mike Tauchman had a tiebreaking two-run single in the seventh inning of the nightcap.

The AL East-leading Yankees, however, saw two more players get hurt. Slugger Edwin Encarnación broke his right wrist when hit by a pitch from Josh Smith in the eighth inning of the opener, and outfielder Aaron Hicks hurt his elbow on a throw in the second game. There was no immediate word on how long they would be sidelined.

Boston's losing streak reached seven, its longest since 2015. Boston is 59-54, with as many losses as its World Series champions last year (108-54).

Domingo Germán (14-2) and Tommy Kahnle (3-0) got the wins for New York. Aroldis Chapman earned his 29th save in 34 chances in the second game.

Boston's Rafael Devers hit his career-high 22nd homer in the nightcap. Sale (5-11) tied his career high by allowing eight earned runs in 3 2/3 innings in the opener, and Matt Barnes (3-4) surrendered Tauchman's hit in the night game.

Dodgers 4, Padres 1

In Los Angeles, Walker Buehler struck out 15 in his second career complete game, leading the Dodgers to the victory.

Buehler (10-2) reached double digits in strikeouts for the fourth time this season, all since June 3. The 15 strikeouts were his most since he had 16 in a complete-game victory over Colorado on June 21.

Justin Turner hit his 17th homer as Los Angeles finished off San Diego in a tidy 2 hours, 18 minutes. Turner finished with two hits and two RBIs.

San Diego's Manuel Margot connected for his first career pinch-hit homer with two outs in the eighth inning.

Braves 5, Reds 4, 10 innings

In Atlanta, Ronald Acuña Jr. hit an RBI single off Robert Stephenson with two outs in the 10th inning.

The Braves thought they had the game just about won in the eighth when Acuña drew a tiebreaking bases-loaded walk from Michael Lorenzen. But then Shane Greene, the new closer making his Braves debut after being acquired in a trade with Detroit, blew a save opportunity in the ninth.

Greene gave up consecutive singles to begin the inning before Tucker Barnhart's flair single to left field scored the tying run.

Luke Jackson (6-2), who lost the closer's job to Greene after the trade, earned the win after striking out the side in the 10th.

Mets 7, Pirates 5

In Pittsburgh, Wilson Ramos hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning, sending New York to the win after Marcus Stroman had a shaky debut with the Mets.

Stroman, acquired in a trade with Toronto last Sunday, allowed three runs in 4 1/3 innings, but received a no-decision after the Mets pounced on Pittsburgh's bullpen.

New York trailed 3-1 in the seventh when Jeff McNeil connected for a pinch-hit homer to get the Mets within a run. Robinson Canó doubled off Kyle Crick (3-6) leading off the eighth and Ramos followed with a shot to the seats in right-center field.

Cubs 4, Brewers 1

In Chicago, Cole Hamels pitched five shutout innings for the Cubs after spending five weeks on the injured list, and Albert Almora Jr. connected for a tiebreaking homer.

Chicago lost All-Star catcher Willson Contreras to a right hamstring injury in the seventh. He'll undergo an MRI on Monday.

Out since June 28 because of a strained left oblique, Hamels allowed four singles, struck out six and walked none.

Almora hit a solo drive in the seventh off Junior Guerra (3-3). Rowan Wick (1-0) got his first major league victory, and Craig Kimbrel earned his ninth save.

Rays 8, Marlins 6

In St. Petersburg, Eric Sogard homered twice and finished with a career-high five RBIs, powering Tampa Bay to the victory.

Willy Adames and Austin Meadows also connected as Tampa Bay won for the seventh time in eight games. Nick Anderson (3-4), who was acquired in a trade with Miami on Wednesday, pitched a perfect eighth for the win, and Emilio Pagan finished for his ninth save.

The Rays went ahead to stay on Adames' leadoff drive against Jarlin Garcia (2-1) in the eighth.

Indians 7, Angels 2

In Cleveland, Francisco Lindor and Jason Kipnis homered during the Indians' five-run fifth inning.

Carlos Santana added a solo shot in the eighth, helping Cleveland to its third win in four games. Adam Plutko (4-2) allowed one run in 5 1/3 innings.

Kipnis hit a two-run homer off Trevor Cahill (3-7), who replaced injured starter Félix Peña in the second. Lindor's three-run drive was off Justin Anderson.

Peña sprained his right knee as he stepped on first base to record an out on a ground ball hit by José Ramírez.

Diamondbacks 18, Nationals 7

In Phoenix, Eduardo Escobar hit two of Arizona's five homers and drove in a career-high seven runs.

Nick Ahmed, Jake Lamb and Alex Avila also went deep as Arizona knocked Stephen Strasburg around for the second time this season.

Strasburg (14-5) entered with a seven-game winning streak, but gave up three homers and nine runs before leaving with two outs in the fifth inning.

Anthony Rendon hit a three-run homer for the Nationals, who had won the previous seven at Chase Field.

Athletics 8, Cardinals 3

In Oakland, Mike Fiers took a shutout into the sixth inning for his eighth consecutive win.

Pinch-hitter Chad Pinder delivered a three-run homer to keep the A's unbeaten in three games against the Cardinals this season. Stephen Piscotty added two hits against his former team and made a leaping catch at the outfield wall to take away a hit from Matt Wieters in the fifth.

Paul Goldschmidt singled and doubled to extend his hitting streak to 11 games for St. Louis. Dakota Hudson (10-6) got the loss.

Rangers 5, Tigers 4, 10 innings

In Arlington, Rougned Odor homered with two outs in the 10th inning, lifting Texas to the victory.

Odor's opposite-field drive into the Detroit bullpen in left-center came against Nick Ramirez (5-4). That was a pitch after third base umpire Dave Rackley ruled Odor was able to check his swing on 2-2 pitch.

Jose Leclerc (2-3) pitched a perfect 10th inning for the win.

Orioles 6, Blue Jays 4

In Baltimore, Trey Mancini homered and drove in four runs, and Baltimore stopped Toronto's five-game win streak.

After Toronto pulled even with two runs in the top of the seventh, Baltimore restored its lead in the bottom half. The first two batters reached against Buddy Boshers (0-1) before Hanser Alberto hit an RBI single off Justin Shafer and Mancini added a run-scoring groundout.

Phillies 3, White Sox 2

In Philadelphia, Aaron Nola pitched seven strong innings for Philadelphia, and Bryce Harper and Rhys Hoskins homered.

Nola (10-2) allowed one run and three hits with 10 strikeouts and two walks. He lowered his ERA to 1.91 over his last nine starts

Nick Pivetta got the final six outs for his first career save.

Jon Jay had an RBI double for Chicago, which has dropped nine of 11.

Giants 6, Rockies 5

In Denver, pinch-hitter Buster Posey came through with a two-run double in the eighth inning to rally San Francisco to the road win.

Scooter Gennett homered for the Giants, and Pablo Sandoval had three hits.

Posey batted with two on against Carlos Estevez (1-2) and lined a ball to right field to score pinch-runner Kevin Pillar and Austin Slater.

Warriors, Green agree on 4-year, $100M extension

OAKLAND—Draymond Green entered this offseason vowing that the Golden State Warriors would remain a contender for NBA titles. His opinion hasn't changed.

Green and the Warriors have agreed on the terms of a four-year extension worth nearly $100 million, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Saturday. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the deal was unsigned, though that was expected to be completed imminently.

ESPN first reported the agreement, citing Green's agent, Rich Paul.

Green's new deal will start with the 2020-21 season, so he is under contract through 2023-24. Klay Thompson signed a five-year, $190 million extension with the Warriors last month, and Stephen Curry is under contract through the 2021-22 season, so three major pieces of the Warriors' half-decade of success are now locked up for at least three more years.

"I think everybody thinks it's kind of the end of us," Green said in June, after the Warriors lost a six-game series to Toronto in the NBA Finals and saw their run of two straight titles come to an end. "But that's just not smart. We're not done yet. ... But, yeah, I hear a lot of that noise, 'It's the end of a run' and all that jazz. I don't see it happening though. We'll be back."

AP

Golden State Warriors forward Draymond Green (23) battles for the loose ball against teammate Kevon Looney, left, and Toronto Raptors forward Kawhi Leonard (2) during the first half of Game 1 of the NBA Finals, Thursday, May 30, 2019, in Toronto.

The Warriors added All-Star guard D'Angelo Russell this summer, while losing two-time NBA Finals MVP Kevin Durant to Brooklyn as well as parting way with Andre Iguodala, DeMarcus Cousins and Shaun Livingston. So in many ways it will be a different Golden State team this coming season, when the five-time defending Western Conference champion begins playing its home games in the new Chase Center in San Francisco after moving from Oakland's Oracle Arena.

But the core—Curry, Green and, when he returns from his ACL injury, Thompson—will still be around.

"Our core—myself, Klay, Draymond, adding D'Angelo and a lot of hungry, young guys trying to prove themselves in the league — it will look different in terms of the lineups and things like that," Curry said last month. "But the expectations of how we play and that championship-caliber basketball, that's going to be for us always be the motivation and the challenge."

Over the past five seasons, the Warriors have won 77% of their games, including playoffs—a total of 399 wins, 100 more than any other NBA team in that span.

Green has been an enormous part of that success.

He is one of the league's elite defenders, a five-time All-NBA defensive team selection and the defensive player of the year in the 2016-17 season. Green, Curry and Thompson are the lone remaining Warriors players to have been on each of their last three NBA championship teams, in 2015, 2017 and 2018.

Green averaged 7.4 points, 7.3 rebounds and 6.9 assists per game last season. Only four other NBA players—LeBron James, Ben Simmons, Nikola Jokic and Russell Westbrook—averaged at least that much in all of those stat categories.

Including playoff games, Green also had six triple-doubles last season. That tied him for seventh most in the NBA.

Meanwhile, Green's extension removes another big name from the list of potential 2020 free agents. That's notable for the Celtics, who could have two of their key players wading into free agency next summer in Jaylen Brown and Gordon Hayward.

Brown, 22, is extension eligible this summer but it seems unlikely that he will ink a deal before the start of the season. Brown will have the motivation to assert himself this season and escalate his price tag, while the Celtics have the security of knowing Brown will be a restricted free agent, giving them the opportunity to match any offer he receives next summer

Still, a market thin on big names might make Brown that much more intriguing, particularly to teams trying to build around young talent. Other players from Brown's 2016 draft class—Jamal Murray and Ben Simmons—have already cashed in with five-year, $170 million extensions. Working in Boston's favor: There might not be a lot of teams with ample cap space to splurge and the drool-worthy list of names that could potentially be on the free-agent market in 2021 will encourage teams to spend cautiously.

Hayward is another interesting situation. He owns a player option on the fourth and final year of the $128 million pact he signed with Boston in July 2017. It feels unlikely Hayward would walk away from $34.2 million but, with a bounce-back year, there could be motivation. Hayward will have 10 years of NBA service after this season and, at age 30 next summer, he could potentially seek security on the open market. Given his decade of experience, Hayward could command up to 35 percent of a cap that's been projected at $117 million.

That means Hayward's starting salary could potentially be nearly $41 million. Of course, that means he'd have to reestablish himself as an All-Star talent now further removed from the ankle injury he suffered five minutes into his first game with the Celtics, but it's something to ponder, particularly if there's not a lot of must-have names on the open market.

Lakers versus Clippers, Raptors against Pelicans for opener

LeBron James, Anthony Davis, Kawhi Leonard, Paul George, the Los Angeles market and even a little tension from last year have turned Lakers-Clippers into a highly marketable rivalry.

Not only will the NBA feature that matchup on Christmas, the teams are also scheduled to meet opening night.

An Elton John concert is scheduled for Toronto's arena that night. So, presumably the Raptors-Pelicans game will be in New Orleans.

That'd make the Raptors the first defending champion to open on the road since the Lakers in 2000 (at Portland).

It'll be a little odd for Toronto to start on the road. But the banner-raising and ring ceremony will happen soon enough. In the long run, nobody will be be bothered it wasn't opening night.

The only strange part will be Kawhi Leonard not being present. He's the first superstar ever to switch teams immediately after winning a title.

The Pelicans should have their main attraction, Zion Williamson, for the opener. That'll be the draw in New Orleans.

Meanwhile, You may or may not believe that Damian Lillard waved goodbye and ended the Russelll Westbrook era in OCK with his 37-foot buzzer beater.

Even if you don't think 'the shot' had anything to do with the Thunder going in a new direction, fans all across the league have fun watching the Lillard and Westbrook matchup.

So it's time to mark your calendar.

According to reports, the very first Lillard and Westbrook showdown since their postseason matchup is tentatively slated for November 17th in Houston.

With reports of Christmas Day games and various other regular season games being rumored all over twitter, NBA fans are even more eager for the 2019-20 NBA regular season schedules to be released.

The NBA should be announcing the schedules the second week of August.

For the Trail Blazers, Portland will reportedly not being play a Christmas Day Game.

Nadal leads ATP Montreal field

MONTREAL—Defending champion Rafael Nadal heads the field for the ATP Montreal Masters that starts on Monday with Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer opting out of the key US Open tuneup.

With Djokovic and Federer putting a return to action on hold after their dramatic Wimbledon final, 33-year-old Nadal will be seeking to retain the title he earned last year in Toronto, when he beat rising star Stefanos Tsitsipas in the final.

The Greek is back, taking the fourth seeding behind a pair of fellow young guns in number two Dominic Thiem of Austria and Germany's Alexander Zverev, seeded third.

Federer and Djokovic aren't scheduled to resurface until the Cincinnati Masters starts on August 12, giving them one tournament prior to the August 26 start of the US Open at Flushing Meadows, the final Grand slam of the year.

Federer has been training on hardcourt at home in Switzerland after falling to Djokovic in a dramatic five-set final at the All England Club three weeks ago, in which the Swiss great held two match points.

Djokovic has been pictured relaxing at various European beach resorts with his family prior to picking up the racquet once again.

Nadal, meanwhile, is pacing himself after another season marred by injury, insisting despite the pleas and inducements of Cincinnati officials that he won't decide whether to play there until he sees how he feels after Montreal.

"Depending on what happens in Montreal, I'll take a decision on Cincinnati," he said. "Cincinnati is still an option. But I want to arrive well prepared and ready for the US Open, the last major of the season."

Nadal could face a challenge in the second round after a bye, with a possible match against Australian Alex de Minaur—winner of the Atlanta title last weekend.

Second seed Thiem has purposefully left it late for the hardcourts, preferring to stay as long as possible on European clay by entering both Hamburg and Kitzbuehel.

Beckham, Hunt make home debuts for Browns

CLEVELAND (AP)— Odell Beckham Jr. and Kareem Hunt made their unofficial FirstEnergy Stadium debuts Saturday as members of the Cleveland Browns.

A crowd of 37,686 — energized by quarterback Baker Mayfield—gave both offseason acquisitions numerous ovations during the Orange and Brown Scrimmage, a 2 1/2-hour intrasquad practice.

Former Giants wide receiver Beckham caught passes from Mayfield on the first two snaps of full-team action, while ex-Chiefs running back Hunt logged his initial on-field work after missing the first eight training camp sessions with a groin injury.

"You could feel the excitement from the fans out there," said Mayfield, who encouraged chants of "O-B-J" by waving his arms. "It wasn't even half-filled and the energy was unreal. People are excited to have football back. The excitement is justified, so now we have to go and make it right for them."

Beckham and Hunt have fueled sky-high expectations for the Browns, who haven't made the playoffs in 17 years. They went 7-8-1 last season as Mayfield set an NFL-rookie record with 27 touchdown passes.

Hunt was activated from the non-football injury list and took part in individual drills. The Northeast Ohio native is facing an eight-game league suspension for a domestic violence incident that prompted his release by Kansas City.

"For Kareem to be in the stadium for the first time in front of everybody, not that he actually played, but just to be out there, it will change your perspective on it," Mayfield said. "I'm hoping he enjoyed that more than we did."

Coach Freddie Kitchens didn't rule out Hunt seeing limited action Thursday, when Cleveland hosts the Washington Redskins in its preseason opener, but said he would prefer to err on the side of caution with injured players.

"It was nice to see Kareem do that, but it's a slow process and we want to be safe with them and careful with getting him back," Kitchens said. "I was pleased that he came out and did some drills. It was very good."

The first-year coach modified the format of the annual event by holding a typical camp practice in an NFL stadium, running two limited sequences of 11-on-11 action. The only players made available to the media were Mayfield and defensive end Myles Garrett.

AP
Cleveland Browns wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. makes a catch during practice at the NFL football team's training facility Monday, July 29, 2019, in Berea, Ohio.

General manager John Dorsey signed numerous autographs while wearing his trademark Browns sweatshirt on the 83 degree day, recently retired kicker Phil Dawson threw t-shirts into the stands, and Kitchens addressed the crowd before leaving the field.

"Yeah, there was adrenaline doing that," Kitchens admitted. "I understand the passion these fans have and they demonstrate every opportunity they have to show it."

Meanwhile, in Virginia, Jay Gruden is doing his part to quiet trade buzz swirling around the Washington Redskins and holdout Trent Williams.

Asked if the team would trade its starting left tackle, Washington's coach said Saturday, "I would seriously doubt that, so no." But exactly what it will take to get Williams to training camp remains something of a mystery.

"I do not have an understanding of what it would take to get him back here," Gruden said. "If I did, he'd be back here."

Williams is reportedly upset about the team's handling of his health, including the removal of a growth on his head this year. Williams has two years left on his contract, but the standoff appears more complicated than other holdouts around the league because money isn't the only focus.

The team last week denied a report that Williams no longer trusts Redskins President Bruce Allen or the medical team and informed the Redskins he didn't intend to play for them again.

Despite Williams' absence and the signings of offensive tackles Donald Penn and Corey Robinson , Gruden says Saturday he's still optimistic — "very optimistic" about Williams reporting to camp. Asked why he was optimistic, Gruden provided no answer.

Last month, Allen said only this about Williams' status: "He has a contract. I'll leave it that Trent and I have talked."

Williams is being fined $40,000 for each day of camp he misses. And he is very much missed by teammates.

"Trent, he is the best left tackle in the league," said guard Brandon Scherff, whose own status is uncertain with a year left on his contract. "He helped us so much and we miss him, but it is a business. He's got to do what he got and we just hope he comes back."

Gonzalez leads Pro Football Hall of Fame inductees

CANTON, Ohio (AP)— What a defensive backfield in gold jackets: Ed Reed , Ty Law and Champ Bailey.

And what a challenge they had throughout their careers, trying to cover fellow inductee Tony Gonzalez.

All four entered the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday night.

"Fitting to be in here with Mr. Johnny Robinson and Champ and Ty," Reed said. "My DBs know it was always about us."

Sort of. But Gonzalez, like Bailey elected in his first eligible year, showed how pro football could be all about the tight end.

A six-time All-Pro, Gonzalez helped revolutionize the position, lining up in traditional tight end spots as well as flanked out or in the backfield—pretty much everywhere on the field. Then he beat many of those defensive backs everywhere on the field in 12 seasons with Kansas City and five with Atlanta. He stands second in receptions with 1,325 only to Jerry Rice.

His final totals included 15,127 yards receiving and 111 touchdowns in the regular season. He made 14 Pro Bowls and the NFL All-Decade Team of the 2000s.

He particularly thanked his 101-year-old grandmother, his wife, who he said doesn't like football, and the fans in KC. Gonzalez was one of the most popular players in the entire league for those 17 seasons.

"After I was traded, I went back to play a game in Kansas City," he recalled. "During pregame they introduced me, which I thought was very special. Then something happened, one of the greatest moments of my career: The fans began yelling for me."

While Gonzalez, now a broadcaster, delivered a smooth speech until his eyes welled up when addressing his mother, Bailey, Reed and Law's voices frequently broke during theirs.

Law spoke of his family's support, and his hometown, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, which also produced his uncle, Tony Dorsett, and Mike Ditka — both Hall of Famers.

"I know there ain't no crying in football," Law joked.

"We are a community built on love, strength, struggle, and that Quiptown pride," he said. "We did it, Aliquippa. We are in the Pro Football Hall of Fame."

Law became the first inductee from New England's standout defense that won three Super Bowls in the early 2000s. One of the most versatile and physical cornerbacks the NFL has seen, Law was selected for five Pro Bowl teams and was a two-time All-Pro. He finished with 53 career interceptions, twice leading the NFL in that category, had more than 800 tackles, 169 passes defensed, five sacks, and scored seven times.

Perhaps Law's most noteworthy game came in the 2002 Super Bowl, when his hard-hitting style upset Rams receivers and threw off the "Greatest Show on Turf. That was emblematic of his attacking style — and soon after led to rules changes limiting how physical defenders could be against receivers.

Reed was just as big a playmaker for Baltimore, a safety who fellow enshrinee Ray Lewis called "a gift" to the Ravens and himself. He was elected in his first year of eligibility, just as Lewis was last year, and called for unity in America, setting a standard like a team's—each pushing one another toward an achievement.

"Help each other, encourage each other, lift each other up," Reed said. "Encourage those around you. Encourage yourself."

Reed, a five-time All-Pro safety and member of the NFL 2000s All-Decade Team, was the 2004 Defensive Player of the Year and made nine Pro Bowls. He had 64 career interceptions, seventh overall; led the NFL in picks three times; and his 1,590 yards on interception returns is a league mark. His 13 non-offense TDs rank fifth all time.

In 2013, in his hometown of New Orleans, the Ravens won the Super Bowl.

Bailey played for Washington and Denver in his 15-year career, and was a force in each of those seasons. He intercepted 54 passes, including one against New England he returned for 100 yards in the 2005 divisional playoffs.

A 12-time Pro Bowler, a record for the position, and three-time All-Pro who made the NFL's All-Decade Team of the 2000s, Bailey was the seventh overall draft pick by the Redskins in 1999. He was dealt to Denver in 2004 for running back Clinton Portis in a steal for the Broncos.

Bailey credited Hall of Fame cornerbacks Darrell Green and Deion Sanders, mentors with the Redskins, for setting his foundation in the pros. Yet he noted he was "consumed by the game" that "gives a person discipline and perseverance," but it doesn't prepare you for "real life."

USWNT opens victory tour, Ellis farewell

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) —FIFA President Gianni Infantino took time out of his vacation to drop by the Rose Bowl for a celebration of the newest women's World Cup champions.

And Infantino is confident the next winners of that trophy will reap even bigger rewards in four years.

Departing coach Jill Ellis and the U.S. women's national team opened their po.. World Cup domestic victory tour with a 3-0 victory over Ireland on Saturday night.

Infantino turned up in the stadium tunnel after the game to congratulate Ellis and her players, even posing for photos with the veteran coach. The Swiss executive repeated his desire to see constant growth in the women's game, including his recent declarations of his determination to double the prize money to $60 million for an expanded 32-team women's tournament in 2023.

"We have until 2023 to discuss about the prize money," Infantino said. "I think we need to market it as well in a certain way, and I'm very confident. I'm sure we can go higher than (doubling the prize money). We need to be optimistic."

Optimism about the women's game abounded on a celebratory evening at the famed Rose Bowl, where the U.S. women kicked off a five-..ity tour bringing the champions to their eager stateside fans. They'll also stop in Philadelphia, St. Paul and Charlotte before finishing in Chicago on Oct. 3 to conclude Ellis' 5 1/2 years in charge.

Ellis announced her decision Tuesday to walk away as the first two-time women's World Cup champion coach , and this win improved her record to 103-7-18 in the U.S.' top job since 2014. The Americans' new boss will have a compressed time frame to prepare the team for the Tokyo Olympics, which will be in the semifinals at this time next year.

SINCLAIR

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The CNMI player will see action in the 2019 Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group IV, starting on Sep. 11, less than two months after dominating the XVI Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa. Sinclair won the singles event against Stubbings and took the gold medals, too in the team event (with CNMI junior players Ken Song and Robbie Schorr) and mixed doubles (with Carol Lee). He also got the silver (with Schorr) in the men's doubles.

After his success in Samoa, Sinclair took a break for only a week, as he headed to Kentucky to play in an Association of Tennis Professionals tournament. He will then resume competing in ITF World Your events before suiting up for the Pacific Oceania Davis Cup Team anew in Jordan.

Pacific Oceania is one of the 14 teams that will be playing in Amman, joining Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Guam, Iraq, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Oman, Pacific Oceania, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and the United Arab Emirates.

The Top 2 finishers in the tournament will be promoted to Group III in 2020.

Jr. players complete campaign in POJC

Meanwhile, the CNMI Junior National Team wrapped up its participation in the 2019 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships over the weekend.

The Commonwealth bets played in the team event in the U16, U14, and U12 age groups with Juncheol Hwang closing out strong after winning a pair of matches in the North-West standoff, 7-7.

Hwang topped Peter Uila in the singles 2, 4-1, 4-1, and partnered with Guam's Johnny Jackson in beating Justus Pyongil and Peter Uila, 4-2, 5-3.

With the North and West in a deadlock last Saturday, they also shared second place in the U12 age group after collecting 10 wins (out of 28 games in three days) apiece. The East Team, which was made up of the Cook Islands, Norfolk Islands, Tahiti, and Samoa players, topped the age group with 22 victories. The CNMI played with Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau players, while Fiji, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea suited up for the West.

In the U14 division, the North edged the West, 8-6. Serin Chung, Helen Kim, and Daniel Kang delivered crucial wins in the North's close victory. Chung and Kim defeated Emmanuella Masaai and Kerry Waita in the girls doubles 2, 5-3, 4-2, while Kang worked with FSM's Leilah Etscheit in the mixed doubles 1 and downed Fishi's Storm Cornish and Charlotte Nicolaus, 4-2, 2-4, 12-10. Chung also won her singles match over Waita in an earlier game, 4-2, 5-4 (4), while Hyejin Elliot and Etscheit outclassed Nicolaus and Kiribati's Ereti Tabekatarawa, 4-2, 5-4 (2).

FOOTBALL

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people and groups, complete repairs will be done so more players will continue to benefit from the facility," Lee said.

NMIFA president Jerry Tan thanked Lee and the KFA Football-Love Sharing Foundation for their assistance, as it will definitely help facilitate the ongoing rebuilding efforts being done at the NMISTC.

"We are deeply grateful to the KFA Football-Love Sharing Foundation for their generosity. We need all the help we could get to fix our facility, as we seek to provide more players the opportunity to play soccer in a safe and appropriate environment," Tan said.

When Yutu hit Saipan in late October last year, the NMISTC sustained massive damage. NMITA managed to repair and save other features of the facility, including the main pitch. The secondary pitch, on the other hand, was torn down, leaving NMIFA with only the main pitch to host games and other soccer-related activities. School pitches are also not safe to hold matches, so NMIFA has to rely solely on the main pitch.

"We will continue with the repair work, including the construction of the new secondary pitch and other improvements, and with the help of KFA Football-Love Sharing Foundation, the Asian Football Confederation, and other generous supporters, I am confident that we will be successful with this project," the NMIFA head added.

Meanwhile, Lee said that the foundation's assistance to NMIFA will not stop with their donation for the NMISTC repair.

"We will find another way to help NMIFA in the future.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan, left, presents a plaque of appreciation to KFA Football-Love Sharing Foundation chair Kap Jin Lee for donating $15,000 for the repair work at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KFA Football-Love Sharing Foundation chair Kap Jin Lee, center, gestures as he watches the CNMI Men's U19 National Team's training session with Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan, left, and general secretary Ross Zapanta last Friday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

We love what they are doing, spreading the culture of soccer, which is also what we do in South Korea," Lee said.

Korean Football Association Football-Love Sharing Foundation was established in 2004 under the name of Youth Football Foundation. Initially, it aimed at developing grassroots football in South Korea through the help of KFA and the earnings from the 2002 FIFA World Cup co-hosted by the country with Japan. It provided scholarship for youth players and educational materials and supported players in international tournaments.

Then just last year, the group was renamed to Korean Football Association Football-Love Sharing Foundation and it began reaching out to football communities outside South Korea.

"We would like to share football love to other people. We are not focusing on raising elite players, but providing opportunities to more people to enjoy the game of football. The sport has a lot of positives to offer in our community. It teaches teamwork, friendship, confidence, sportsmanship and a lot more good values. It brings people together, as we share one common love—love for football," Lee said. ***(PR)***

OVER

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the women's field, while in the men's division, Dizon defeated Will Ordosgoiti (1:35:00), Robby Glass (1:37:00), Jay Diyco (1:41:00), Floro Dereces (1:49:00), and Chang Wang Jang (2:02:15).

In the team event, Black Mamba made it to the finish line first after clocking in at 1:27:00, while Team LITS1 and Team LITS2 rounded out the Top 3 after checking in at 1:28:00 and 1:31:26, respectively. Shiela Team, Rainy Team, and Sara's Poole Party also joined the race.

Meanwhile, Scarlett Burrell and Kanoa Owens ruled the 5 to 8 age group individual race, while Aoi Braxton and Wataru Kadokura topped the 9 to 12 division. Participants in the 5 to 8 age group did the 25-m swim, one loop bike, and one loop run course around Paupau Beach. The 9 to 12 entries had a longer race, swimming 50m, biking two loops, and running two loops.

Leilani Ruszala, who ran without her shoes on the way to the finish line, came in at second in the 5 to 8 age group and was followed by Lovel Spaeth, Amethys Winkfield, and Isla Turner. In the boys division, Quido Jambor, Yutaka Kadokura, Keoni Ruszala, Evan Poole, P.J. Seman, Jackson and Cooper Koning-Fong, and Teegan Wright were the other finishers.

Aoi won her one-on-one showdown with her sister Kaya in the girls 9 to 12 age group, while Wataru edged Alonzo Nicolas Acosta in the boys race. Completing the finishers list in the Taga Kids were team event's Fiesta Rockers 1 and Isla Montessori 2.

The weekend event was sponsored by IT&E, Kanoa Resort, Aloha Made, and Gatorade and was organized by the Triathlon Association of the CNMI.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Young swimmers head out of the waters off Paupau Beach during yesterday's 2019 IT&E Taga Kids & Sprints Triathlon.

Astros toss combined no-hitter vs Mariners

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Sports

Warriors, Green agree on 4-year, $100M extension

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Football foundation donates $15K for NMISTC

Korean Football Association Football-Love Sharing Foundation has donated $15,000 to the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association to assist in the repair work at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

KFA Football-Love Sharing Foundation chair Kap Jin Lee personally came to Saipan last Friday to hand over the donation to NMIFA president Jerry Tan in the presence of other NMIFA officials.

"It's my great pleasure to come here to Saipan and share this small amount from our foundation to NMIFA to help in the repair of your facility," Lee said. "We, at the KFA Football-Love Sharing Foundation believe that we are one football family in Asia and we always want to look for ways to help our family members."

Before turning over the foundation's donation, Lee watched a video presentation featuring the NMI Soccer Training Center—the groundbreaking ceremony, the construction process, the inauguration, the games and events hosted at the facility, and its post-Super Typhoon Yutu condition.

"I understand how difficult it is to have a brand new facility only to be destroyed just a few months after it was opened. But I am confident that through NMIFA's leadership and the support of other

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For the restoration of Football Infrastructure of
Northern Mariana Islands
USD 15,000
KFA Football Love Sharing Foundation
EAST ASIAN FOOTBALL FEDERA

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KFA Football-Love Sharing Foundation chair Kap Jin Lee, fourth left, presents the ceremonial check donation to Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan, third left, during a ceremony last Friday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville. Also present at the donation turnover ceremony were, from left, NMIFA deputy general secretary Merlie Tolentino, general secretary Ross Zapanta, Executive Committee member Patricia Coleman, and treasurer Elna Curate.

Sinclair to play in Davis Cup

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pacific Games multiple gold medalist and the CNMI's Colin Sinclair will lead the Pacific Oceania Davis Cup Team that will compete in the 2019 Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group IV in Amman, Jordan next month.

It will be Sinclair's third time to suit up for the elite squad and this year, he will be teaming up with Papua New Guinea's Matthew Stubbings, Tahiti's Heve Kelley, and the Cook Islands' Brett Baudinet. Rob Krause will be the group' non-playing captain.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Colin Sinclair returns a shot to Papua New Guinea's Matthew Stubbings during their singles match in the XVI Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa.

Over 30 join triathlon race

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Top 3 finishers in the girls and boys 5 to 8 age group division in the 2019 IT&E Taga Kids & Sprints Triathlon pose for a photo after yesterday's race.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 2019 IT&E Taga Kids & Sprints Triathlon pushed through despite the inclement weather with over 30 participating in yesterday's races.

In the sprints, Heather Taylor and Nap Dizon led the individual finishers with the former completing the 750-meter swim in the waters off Paupau Beach, the 20-kilometer bike, and 5K run around the Marpi area in 1:23:00 and the latter in 1:31:00. Taylor finished ahead of Shawna Brennflect (1:39:52), Tania Tan (1:41:00), and Sly Taggart (1:48:00) in

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